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12 September 1983

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2737

CONTENTS

ENERGY ECONOMICS

ARGENTINA

Briefs

Coal Exports to Denmark 1

COSTA RICA

Briefs

Oil in Limon 2

COUNTRY SECTION

ARGENTINA

Unloading of Foreign Vessels in Territorial Waters Banned
(LA PRENSA, 5 Aug 83) 3

Attitudes, Activities of Peronists Abroad Reviewed
(LA NUEVA PROVINCIA, various dates) 5

BOLIVIA

Paper Warns of Nation's Vulnerability to Communist Control
(Editorial; EL DIARIO, 31 Jul 83) 9

French Foreign Minister Cheysson Offers Economic Cooperation
(HOY, 2 Aug 83) 11

Current Economic Chaos Attributed to Banzer's Mismanagement
(HOY, 4 Aug 83) 13

Banzer Criticizes Government's Ambivalence, Denies Charges
(EL DIARIO, 4 Aug 83) 14

BRAZIL

Montoro Performance Criticized by 53 Percent of Sao Paulo Residents (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 14 Aug 83)	16
Pilot Plant To Produce 2,000 Tons of Titanium by End of 1983 (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 18 Aug 83)	22
Country To Import 3.7 Million Tons of Wheat in 1984 (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 16 Aug 83)	23

COSTA RICA

Unemployment Statistics for Country Published (LA NACION, 25 Jul 83)	24
Briefs	
Favorable Trade Balance	26
Inflation Statistics	26
Land Ownership	27
Number of Youths Decrease	27

EL SALVADOR

BCR Reports 150 Million Colones in Reserves (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 22 Jul 83)	28
CGT Rejects Proposed Changes in Constitution (EL DIARIO DE HOY, 19 Jul 83)	30
European Liberal Parties' Delegation on Fact Finding Tour (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 31 Jul 83)	32
Duarte European Tour Called Self-Serving (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 31 Jul 83)	33
FINATA Reports on Phase Three of Agrarian Reform (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 27 Jul 83)	35
ABECAFE Opposes Proposed Workers Compensation Policy (EL MUNDO, 30 Jul 83)	36
ACES Makes Recommendation on Land Tenure (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 27 Jul 83)	37
Human Rights Commission Seeks Recognition in Constitution (EL MUNDO, 29 Jul 83)	38
Briefs	
Christmas Bonuses Assured	39

GUATEMALA

BCR Warns Exporters on Foreign Exchange (EL MUNDO, 20 Jul 83)	40
Foreign Minister Promises Dynamic, Creative Policies (PRENSA LIBRE, 12 Aug 83)	41
Agrarian Reform, Cooperatives, Aid Proposal Criticized (EL IMPARCIAL, 5 Aug 83)	43
Mexican Agricultural Agreement Extended (PRENSA LIBRE, 7 Aug 83)	46
Briefs	
AVIATECA's Debt \$5 Million	48
Gold, Coal Potential	48
Foreign Exchange Reserves Improve	49

MEXICO

PSUM State Congress Elects New Committee Members (Julio Hernandez Lopez; UNOMASUNO, 1 Aug 83)	50
CT Holds Special Meeting To Resolve Differences (Emilio Lomas; UNOMASUNO, 1 Aug 83)	52
Sonora Communication, Transportation Projects Reported (Antonio Franco Chavero; EL DIA, 30 Jul 83)	53
CROM Revival, CTM Decline Discussed (Salvador Corro; PROCESO, 25 Jul 83)	55
Cuauhtemoc Paleta's Leadership Fidel Velazquez Changing Role	
Monterrey Business Down 20 to 50 Percent (Fernando Esquivel; EL DIA, 26 Jul 83)	62
CFE Funding for Penitas Hydroelectric Plant (Jeanette Becerra Acosta; UNOMASUNO, 4 Aug 83)	63
Food Up 40 to 61 Percent; Official Price Violations Reported (Angelica Quezada; UNOMASUNO, 26 Jul 83)	65
INCO Says Basic Food Prices Stabilizing (Angelica Quezada; UNOMASUNO, 1 Aug 83)	67
Soconusco Needs 100,000 Peasants To Harvest Crops (EL DIA, 4 Aug 83)	69
Former PEMEX Director Jailed; Assets Seized (Miguel Cabildo; PROCESO, 8 Aug 83)	73

Briefs

New Border Commission Created	76
Palenque Border Highway Funds	76

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Details on Local Election Polling, Candidates Reported (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, various dates)	77
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Party Lineup
List of Candidates
Register Voter Total

BRIEFS

COAL EXPORTS TO DENMARK--Argentina will export approximately 35,000 tons of Rio Turbio coal valued at about \$1 million. The sale was made during a mission sent by Yacimientos Carboníferos Fiscales to several European countries which represent the main coal import market, with annual imports of 100 million tons. These products, up to now, have been sent to the European continent by the United States, South Africa and other producer countries. The specific sale of 35,000 tons to Denmark was made as a test with a company from that country concerned with the generation of electrical energy. The aualities of Rio Turbio coal are good enough to satisfy that market since its calorific value contained in ashes and moisture places it within the same general category as coals imported by Europe. Its low sulfur content constitutes an advantage. The strategy launched by the state enterprise arose as the result of the arrangement made by the Secretary of Energy by taking into account that the export of Rio Turbio coal could play a key role for the state enterprise. It was likewise taken into account that it could effect greater utilization and production of gas and related petroleum products and increase production and commercialization of coal. Along these lines YCF developed a multi-stage program which included research into markets and maritime transport operations, information exchange between buyers, pilot operations and possible future long-term sales agreements. With this sale, Argentina records its first coal export. [Text] [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Aug 83 sec 3 p 3] 9436

CSO: 3348/615

BRIEFS

OIL IN LIMON--Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX), which is advising and working with the Costa Rican Petroleum Refinery, S.A. (RECOPE), has notified RECOPE that according to the studies and analyses made of drilling samples taken from San Jose Well I, in Talamanca, it has been determined that "San Jose Well I is positive." In other words, it is a hydrocarbon-producing well. The communication, which was sent last Friday afternoon (day before yesterday), has been kept in strict secrecy, but LA REPUBLICA obtained it from unimpeachable sources with connections in RECOPE. Although a final evaluation will not be available until the perforation reaches 6,000 meters, the data obtained from samples taken from a depth of over 4,000 meters are sufficient to state that San Jose Well I "is a producing well," that is, it contains hydrocarbons in marketable quantities. Since the RECOPE offices are closed Saturdays and today, Sunday, it was not possible for us to obtain further information, but it is certain that PEMEX officials notified RECOPE that the well being drilled with its help "is a positive well," that is, a producing well. [Text] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 24 Jul 83 p 3] 9015

CSO: 3248/1157

UNLOADING OF FOREIGN VESSELS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS BANNED

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Aug 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] A meeting was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the presence of foreign fishing vessels in the South Atlantic inside the 200-nautical-mile jurisdiction designated by Great Britain as the exclusion zone as a result of the war with our country. Present at the meeting were Dr Juan R. Aguirre Lanari, the governors of Chubut and Santa Cruz, Rear Admiral (R) Niceto Echauri Ayerra and Brigade Major (R) Antonio D. Lopez, the secretary of maritime interests, Rear Admiral Ciro Garcia, The Undersecretaries of Fisheries, Raul Fermepin, and of foreign affairs, Alberto Dumont, representatives from the naval high command and other national government officials.

When the deliberation was over, it was reported that present standards had been analyzed and that it had been decided to form a commission, with representatives from appropriate organizations, to advise as soon as possible on supplementary measures deemed applicable for the defense of all national interests.

From the Foreign Minister

When the Minister of Foreign Affairs was consulted, he said that "It is important to stress that Argentina will not permit the unloading of foreign ships in jurisdictional waters." He ratified the creation of the commission cited above.

From Rear Admiral Garcia

For his part, the secretary of maritime interests described the meeting as "very important." In that it clarified all positions as well as present regulations and those which will have to be adopted as a result of this situation.

He recalled that the unloading of products in Argentine ports has already been suppressed by the Secretary of State on his own responsibility. Moreover, he stated that it was resolved at the meeting that the Foreign Ministry, "within its own area of maneuver, would make the decision diplomatically and politically on each of the cases." He pointed out that vessels of practically all nationalities fish in that area, and because of this necessary policies cannot be enforced.

When he was asked what sort of unloading is involved, he answered that this refers to the transshipment of merchandise, in this case catches of fish, from one ship to other transport vessels which move the fishing catch to different consumer markets. The vessel in charge remains in the area to continue with the fishing.

He stated that this was the origin of the drop in prices on the international market. Moreover, Argentina will create an independent authority loyal to the national interest to benefit our business sector so that the Argentine sector might also have the same benefits in the country's ports in the same way as the so-called joint companies will be favored, such as those which Argentine businessmen have set up with Spaniards, Germans, Japanese and other nationalities who operate under our country's flag and sell their products in each of those markets.

He stressed immediately afterward that advantages will be given to national and joint enterprises. The commission to be created will research the standards which will have to be adopted with respect to this matter. He also confirmed that the navy is patrolling the maritime zone to keep out foreign ships with the exception the "British exclusion zone which that usurper nation has set up around the Malvinas Islands." Lastly, he stated that the preservation of fishing resources in the nation's jurisdictional waters is not a question of protecting a particular economic sector. Rather, this is a matter of protecting the resources of Argentina against international economic greed.

9436

CSO: 3348/615

ATTITUDES, ACTIVITIES OF PERONISTS ABROAD REVIEWED

Bahia Blanca LA NUEVA PROVINCIA in Spanish 21, 22 July 83

[21 July 83 p 1]

[Passages enclosed in slantlines are in boldface type in original]

[Text] After much speculation and many conflicting rumors--as will be recalled, we have only been following the matter for a short time--we have come to the conclusion that Isabel Peron only wanted to play a trick, which up to now is not very clear, when she announced details of how a personal envoy would come to Argentina to evaluate the domestic situation with regard to Peronism and her electoral "chances" in the light of the complex, contradictory and confused situation in which her chief supporters find themselves. /What is certain is that in one way or another--including unsuspected official channels of our government--Maria Estela Martinez de Peron is sufficiently informed to have a picture of the situation which is somewhat more than worrisome, in which doubts are at their highest levels and are demonstrative of the fact that a state of inner disorder needs a quick call to unity to avoid an unpleasant surprise at election time./ Specifically, the Croatian colonel who looks after Isabel's security in Spain, Milos De Baguetich, not only has not come to Argentina, but he has also not taken up residence in a neighboring country--it would be Paraguay--from which he would be making important and mysterious telephone calls to keep informed and to give support to all kinds of complaints. But indeed, /all indications now are that Maria Estela is ready to pack her bags and come to Buenos Aires, where in thundering tones she would lay out certain definitions which would have indubitable repercussions and which, as far as we know, would not have much to do with the hopes of those who are sure--or rather, almost sure--that their opinions came to the ears of the former president through costly and, sometimes, even elaborate intermediaries./

Our sources emphasize that "the lady" will stay out of minor conflicts, /will not lay a finger on anyone/ and will not send out any signals so that those interested might feel free to demonstrate preferences which, if such there are, would not be revealed in any way, except insofar as it concerns those for whom the internal functioning of the various cadres which make up the structure of the Justicialist Party might benefit by a simple and objective formal accounting. Actually, we know that the only definition

adopted to date in Madrid is the specific willingness to let all Peronists know/that only Isabelita will guarantee the results of the activities of the party organizm/ and therefore of the next congress, from which all kinds of candidates should emerge.

In this regard, we are told also that this mechanism that Isabel is apparently willing to push to the maximum, /could confuse the fight for the presidential candidacy between Italo Luder and Antonio Cafiero. To put it more clearly, we might add that what could become confused are the respective chances of both candidates for nomination/, a matter which doubtless opens up new challenges and new questions. For example, we have learned from unimpeachable sources that,--not to connect the subject with the Luder-Cafiero nonsense and not to imply, by mentioning their names, that there is any relationship between the two--/one should keep in mind the former governor of Corrientes and new candidate for the position, Julio Romero, as well as Dr Manuel de Anchorena, whose prospects for the governorship of Buenos Aires Province tend to become stronger every day, in spite of efforts by Herminio Iglesias to prevent it./ In any case, we can infer that both politicians have as their only common demoninator their good position within the party congress.

While not abandoning the subject of Peronism, let us say that at the opposite extreme of the group, the contacts maintained by the "Intransigence and Mobilization" group with ultra-Leftist Argentine exiles are the subject of analysis. What we are about to discuss is part of the document we have been citing. Among other things, the report says that the respective teams are working openly in Spain and France and, specifically with reference to those who insist on using the Peronist label, states that /"there are practically no Peronist exiles overseas. Those that are are extremists or dissidents from guerrilla organizations trying to pass for 'Peronists'. In France, in addition to the very special case of Hector Villalon, one might point out sociologist Enrique 'Quique' Padilla, on the political level, and former diplomat Juan Carlos Sanchez Arnau on the professional level.

"'Quique' Padilla," it adds,/"has managed to join up with union elements such as Roberto Garcia and even accompanied him on a trip to Sweden last year./ Sanchez Arnau, currently executive director of an organization called the 'International Center for Development,' with headquarters in Paris, entertains Jorge Vazquez as a house-guest when Vazquez comes to France. He also collaborates with the Spanish magazine DIALOGO IBEROAMERICANO, which is famous for its anti-Argentine position and for which Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen also writes.

"In Spain, Peronist Intransigence, that is, Saadi and Nilda Garre, /has managed to hang on to all the adherents of the 'Peronist table,' which is now dissolved./ 'Peronist Table' was organized by dissident Montoneros who, after breaking with Firmenich, had formed '17 October Montoneros,' which was short-lived because of lack of funds. Among the members of the Peronist table and now Peronist Intransigence are Oscar Bidegain's daughters (he, however, is still with the Montoneros), Daniel Vaca Narvaja (brother of

Fernando) and Bacigalupo (who was attorney general of the nation in Campora's time and considers himself Esteban Righi's representative in Madrid)."

[22 July 83 p 1]

[Text] Yesterday, after considering the situation of Peronism here at home and emphasizing the imminence of Maria Estela Martinez de Peron's return /--which will take place "any time" after the first half of this month--we returned to the document we discussed a few days ago relative to the activities and plans being drawn up by ultra-Leftist exiles overseas. Our report yesterday transcribed the first part of the chapter concerning the group which /insists on being called Peronist/ and which has, maintains and even carries out certain lines of communication with the domestic group which is called here /"Intransigence and Mobilization"/ and is headed by the former national senator from Catamarca, /Vicente Leonidas Saadi./

The second part of this chapter states in its text that "another group to keep in mind, although it has not yet decided whether it will join 'Peronist Intransigence' or stick more closely to more orthodox definitions, is that of /the 'lawyers' of the UGT (General Union of Workers, a socialist union organization), which include, among others, 'Pancho' Lopez and Armando Caro (the latter is a son of Peronist leader Armando Caro)./ It is possible that these lawyers, although of Leftist tendencies, may not wish to join 'Peronist Intransigence and Mobilization,' in order not to lose their union contacts, since it is known that it is their intention to become a sort of bridge between the /'62 Union Organizations' and the UGT./ The object of this step appears to be obvious, but as yet it is not very clear what will follow; doubtless it will have to be planned."

Further on in the same paragraph--before the one concerning tactical relations of the exiles with radicalism--the report points out that "peronist Intransigence and Mobilization" now publishes in Spain a magazine entitled, /LUCHA PERONISTA, in which the important figure is Juan Manuel Abal Medina./ The head of this magazine, at least on the surface, is /Jose Leon Suarez, who also used to be in charge of distribution of the bulletin NOTICIAS, published by the Montoneros./ "Suarez," the document continues, "broke away from the 'Montoneros' and with other dissidents joined the ranks, first, of the /'17 October Montoneros'/, then of /'Peronist Table'/ and finally, of /'Peronist Intransigence'/, of which he is still a member."

This last organization or tendency, in spite of great differences among the various groups of exiles, /is being supported tactically by the 'Montoneros.'/ Concerning France's position toward Argentina, it is added that the unfortunate economic situation brought about by the Mitterrand government--especially unemployment--along with a xenophobic attitude toward poor immigrants, prejudices and discourages most of the Argentine exiles. "However," it emphasizes, "the leaders of those exiles, /especially Solari Yrigoyen/ (the document was written before his return to the country) are now better installed in Paris than ever. With regard to France, the most important thing to remember is its new policy with relation to Latin America, born of the unfortunate position it took, on the side of Great Britain, during the

Falklands War. The implementation of this new French policy for Latin America has been entrusted to /socialist leader Antoine Blanca/, named by Mitterrand on 3 November 1982 to be France's roving ambassador in Latin America. Until his appointment, Blanca was adviser on Latin American relations to Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy. Before the socialist victory in France Blanca was in charge of Latin American affairs in the Secretariat of International Relations of the French Socialist Party. "Now he is the first roving ambassador in the history of France and has more power than the French ambassadors in each of the Latin American countries. Thus he is something like a 'superambassador.'

"After his appointment, he himself admitted that although he will be working for the Minister of Foreign Relations, he will carry out his task in /'close collaboration' with Regis Debray/, presidential adviser for the Third World (especially Latin America).

/"Blanca," the document continues, "is a sworn enemy of the military process in Argentina, a promoter of the anti-Argentine campaign in France and a firm defender of the plan to have the Salvadoran guerrillas recognized as participants in conversations with the El Salvador Government."/

8735

CSO: 3348/614

PAPER WARNS OF NATION'S VULNERABILITY TO COMMUNIST CONTROL

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 31 Jul 83 p 2

[Editorial: "The Power of the Communists"]

[Text] Recent news items from Paris report that the mayor of the City of Light and leader of the opposition to the Socialist government, Jacques Chirac, has demanded the departure of the Communists from the French Government, asserting that they support Soviet positions with regard to the defense of France that are absolutely the opposite of those backed by the Mitterrand administration itself and adding that those ministers have decisively contributed to the "disorganization of the economy and public life in France."

Thus the experience people have had in other countries, like Allende's Chile, that the communists act following their own watchwords without even behaving in a manner loyal to the governments in which they participate, exploiting them to realize strategies that invariably serve the Soviet Union, is being repeated.

These judgments are particularly valid with regard to communist behavior in Bolivia. Their presence in the present government has been expressed in attitudes that have introduced factors of uneasiness and disorder with a view to establishing a state of anarchy disposed to social and economic chaos in order to weaken democratic institutions and provoke extreme situations, the result of which they would be the only ones to profit from.

If they have been able to produce serious internal corrosion even in nations in which the democratic tradition has always been exemplary, as is the case with France, why could they not do so in countries like ours where the institutions are weak and practical democracy has hardly begun? Among us the communists move about with enormous ease, and so they can with their proverbial demagoguery exploit the situation of extreme poverty we are suffering, stirring up the class struggle for the crafty purpose of undermining the foundations on which the very government they say they are serving rests.

While in France the communists have finally introduced the Soviet "Trojan horse" into European defense with serious risk to the West, in Bolivia they constitute the vanguard of penetration for radiating their influence throughout the rest of South America, an objective they are successfully achieving

as we may judge from the events that have arisen recently in this part of the world.

These reflections permit us to ask ourselves whether democracy may not be the source of its own destruction or, in other words, whether the enemies of democracy may succeed in destroying it, acting like bacteria from within an organism that does not know how to defend itself.

11,466

CSO: 3348/613

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER CHEYSSON OFFERS ECONOMIC COOPERATION

La Paz HCY in Spanish 2 Aug 83 p 7

[Text] The European Economic Community will probably expedite negotiations Bolivian is to engage in to refinance its foreign debt, according to a statement made yesterday by French Minister of Foreign Affairs Claude Cheysson, who added that they would also help Bolivia to gain "access to the market in connection with economic development."

The minister of foreign affairs said that the country has the support of European democratic forces and that it is therefore "natural" that it should feel that the European Economic Community "is a valid partner in the discussion" for its proposals.

He maintained that "it remains to be seen whether progress can be made" in the negotiations with that European organization, composed of 10 nations, in order to facilitate Bolivia's transactions with the International Monetary Fund or "to help it" to defer or repay its debt.

As for the minister of interior, as interim foreign affairs minister he asserted that "an agreement has been reached whereby the French Government will cooperate with Bolivia in the direction of making certain foreign financial institutions more aware of the situation and more flexible so that they may provide better handling of Bolivian transactions.

At the conference Foreign Affairs Minister Cheysson had with President Hernan Siles Zuazo at the San Jorge Residence yesterday, they spoke of the need for this in connection with the Bolivian foreign debt. We learned that the chief of state also requested French support in obtaining funds at the so-called Paris Club.

The problem of the drug traffic and the campaign the country is waging to eradicate it were also raised at the meeting with the president.

Cheysson said at a press conference that the manufacture of and illegal traffic in drugs is a serious matter for "our society." He noted that it originates

among international groups and that "we must all fight the drug traffic together."

He, however, declared that we should not go so far as to eliminate the primary product of the coca, no more than we do the grapes that produce alcoholic products. He asserted that we ought to engage in an action against abuse of the product.

Agreements

At a press conference, interim Foreign Affairs Minister Mario Roncal recalled that on the occasion of President Hernan Siles Zuazo's visit to Paris (last March) an agreement on French technical, economic and financial cooperation was signed.

He stated that that instrument is related to the completion of the Military Hospital. He said that agreements were also entered into for cooperation in the domain of customs and internal revenue aimed at making administrative procedures more flexible and improving collections.

"With regard to auto transport, an agreement has been reached on a transfer of technology and auto parts for ENTA [expansion unknown] and ENAUTO [expansion unknown]," Roncal noted and went on to say that the French Government would also assign technical commissions to Bolivia to improve the agroindustrial development of the plateau region.

He maintained that France would cooperate in the drilling of water wells, the installation of solar energy collectors for the plateau and that technical cooperation for the development of the plateau in the field of wool-bearing livestock has also been requested.

He said that the French technicians who will be responsible for the studies in question will achieve more in these fields in a short time. Meanwhile, the Joint Bolivian-French Commission is working on other projects.

11,466
CSO: 3348/613

CURRENT ECONOMIC CHAOS ATTRIBUTED TO BANZER'S MISMANAGEMENT

La Paz HOY in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 12

[Text] "Former President Hugo Banzer Suarez has no moral authority to suggest standards of behavior because the profound crisis the country is in is a product of the 7 years of mismanagement and misrule with which he led the nation," Simon Reyes, the secretary for international relations of the COB [Bolivian Labor Federation], said yesterday.

Reyes said that Banzer has spoken of freedoms and benefits the public received during his administration, but he has forgotten the repression, the concentration camps, exiles, murders and disappearances and other attacks on human rights.

Banzer's dictatorship (1971-1978) was marked by the mismanagement of funds appropriated for public works. They were not invested in productive enterprises; everything was channeled into deals like the freeway, the Hotel Sheraton, skyscrapers and others.

He added that during those 7 years the country's raw materials attained high prices (tin, oil and others), but the Bolivian people did not enjoy the social benefits in which the proceeds were invested, because everything was mismanagement, deals and misappropriation of funds.

He maintained that the workers will never forget the abuses that were committed: the massacres at Tolata and Epizana, armed intervention in the mining regions, the closing down of the universities and the constant termination of academic jobs.

Banzer will be judged responsible for the abuses that were committed during his regime in both the interests of the country and of human rights.

The labor leader maintained that Banzer will never win an election and that his only option is a bloody coup like the one that took place in 1971, on which occasion the Revolutionary Nationalist Movement, headed by Paz Estenssoro, actively participated in the violation of constitutional liberties.

At their last national rally the workers declared that they would defend the democratic process with every available means and would not permit the return of military dictatorships that have brought the Bolivian people blood and affliction.

11466

CSO: 3348/613

BANZER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S AMBIVALENCE, DENIES CHARGES

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 4 Aug 83 pp 1,18

[Article: "Hugo Banzer: The Government Ought to Declare Itself Either for Communism or Socialism"]

[Text] "The government ought to declare itself either for communism or socialism, not do things by half measures," Gen Hugo Banzer said in state ents to reporters in referring to the present political and economic situations.

As for his presence in La Paz, he explained that, as leader of the ADN [National Democratic Alliance], he has to directly attend to the party's political affairs from its headquarters, which is in this city.

Referring to the immediate political situation, he said that it is marked by a rise in the political temperature motivated by the opening of Parliament, a circumstance in which positions are being negotiated in that institution.

He later noted that he believed that the people know that the UDP [People's Democratic Union] has with the absence of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] disintegrated, which has considerably affected the UDP and as a result it has lost strength.

"That is the chief characteristic of the present political situation as a whole," he said. As for the ADN, he asserted that he was convinced that it was getting stronger and was growing, a fact which he has verified, having made intensive trips throughout the entire country, including provinces and small towns, where the organizational structure has been consolidated, in addition to having attested to the enormous number of active ADN members.

"The party," he pointed out, "is growing not only due to the mistakes made by the present government but also due to the [illegible word] political action of present-day leaders.

As for the economic situation, he said that, "when one analyzes it, one can see that it is catastrophic and that it is fundamentally due to the irresponsibility with which the country has been managed in the economic sector, because at first we believed in the strength displayed by the UDP, which had not only cohesion, but also the ability and the responsibility for doing the job.

Well, we are demonstrating that this is not at all the case and that its strength is turning into weakness and that the cohesion does not exist. The obvious proof of this is the neglect it has been tolerating."

Banzer emphasized that the country is being irresponsibly managed and that, while a family may be irresponsibly managed, the fate of the country may not.

He drew a comparison with his government, maintaining that during his administration there was no shortage of bread, meat or work, in addition to the fact that there were no waiting lines and there was peace.

At the same time he refuted accusations that blame his administration for the current consequences, describing that position as somewhat flawed inasmuch as they go on repeating them without the public's giving any credence to them.

As for the government's political policy, he noted that, "if the government wants to lead us toward communism or socialism, let it say so, let it act accordingly and we who are neither communists nor socialists will know what we are going to do; but this business of doing things by half measures, without any kind of ideological orientation, keeps the people of Bolivia confused. Once again, I believe that this is the result of the irresponsibility with which the country is being managed," he said.

He rejected the term, "destabilizers," used to allude to all sectors and parties when he said: "The irresponsibility of the government is real destabilization."

He emphasized the fact that the ADN has been pursuing an action of constructive opposition to contribute solutions, but, of course, the government is deaf to these contributions. At the same time he reiterated that what interests the government is the disunity of the people at a time when we ought to be more united.

He refuted accusations with reference to the drug traffic, pointing out that, when one makes accusations, there should be some foundation for them: "When they accused me," he said, "there should have been some grounds for doing so, which is why I faced the people in Congress to deny those accusations, but I did so face to face with the people, courageously; what happens now, however, is that, when there are accusations, the accusers and the accused embrace one another."

And finally, he exhorted the people to have faith and confidence in order to find a solution to the present crisis.

11,466
CSO: 3348/613

MONTORO PERFORMANCE CRITICIZED BY 53 PERCENT OF SAO PAULO RESIDENTS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Aug 83 p 4

[Text] Franco Montoro's performance in the first 100 days of his administration was rated "average," "poor" and "very poor" by 53 percent of Sao Paulo's residents, representing a rate of approval--and popularity--of minus 18 points. Only 35 percent of the Paulistas rated the governor's performance as "very good" and "good." The deactivation of Paulipetro and the demonstrations by unemployed workers were the two events which the governor was thought to have handled very well or well, according to the majority, but over half of the Paulistas disapprove of Montoro's actions in the areas of unemployment and the civil service.

These are some of the results of a survey conducted by the Gallup Public Opinion Institute especially for O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO regarding the performance of the Montoro administration in his first 3 months in office. In a previous survey published in June, the governor's popularity rate was minus 2 points. The Gallup survey, which polled 1,270 individuals in the capital and interior of the state, further revealed that 44 percent of the Paulistas consider the Montoro administration an improvement over that of Maluf, while 41 percent feel the governor's performance is equal to (26 percent) or worse (15 percent) than that of his predecessor. However, 54 percent of the respondents feel that Montoro's administration will be better than that of Paulo Maluf. The choice of Mario Covas as mayor of Sao Paulo was approved by 52 percent of Sao Paulo residents, while 31 percent disapproved of the choice (but 66 percent of those interviewed could not name the mayor); 68 percent of the population believe that the Montoro administration will not have sufficient funds to attend to the needs of the state.

Even PMDB Criticizes Government

The Gallup survey found that only 6 percent of the Paulistas felt that Governor Franco Montoro's performance was excellent, while 29 percent considered it good, amounting to 35 percent who voiced approval of his administration. However, 53 percent of the Paulistas disapprove of his administration, rating it as average (42 percent), poor (4 percent) and terrible (7 percent). The difference between the two percentages results in an approval and popularity rate of minus 18 points.

Nonetheless, Governor Montoro managed a better showing than former Governor Paulo Maluf, who received a negative rating of 31 points in his first 3 months in office, according to a Gallup survey published on 18 October 1979.

Franco Montoro's performance rated highest among people from the lower socioeconomic brackets. In Class D, he received a rating of 14 negative points and in Class E his rating was 9 positive points. The disapproval is greater in the

higher classes: A (-30 points); B (-23 points); and C (-19 points). People with more education were more critical of Governor Montoro than were those with less schooling.

Of those interviewed, 22 percent said they were very interested in knowing how the Montoro administration was faring; 38 percent said they had little interest and 40 percent had no interest at all. Followers of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] and the PT [Workers Party] indicated great interest in the governor's performance.

The survey found that only 42 percent of the respondents who voted for Franco Montoro approved of his administration, whereas 48 percent of those who voted for him were not satisfied with his performance. Among those who voted for Montoro, the rate of approval of his administration was a negative 8 points. Of the PT sympathizers, 76 percent of the respondents disapprove of Montoro's performance, while 60 percent from the PDS [Social Democratic Party], 61 percent from the PTB [Brazilian Labor Party] and 53 percent from the PDT [Democratic Workers Party] are also unhappy with his administration.

Young people from 18 to 29 years old and older people, over 50 years of age, are less disapproving of Montoro's performance. Disapproval is greater in the capital than in cities in the interior.

Also according to the survey: "Although there are no significant differences, it can be said that those who follow the Montoro administration through newspapers (- 12 points) and television (-13 points) tend to evaluate the governor's performance more positively than those who rely on other communications media and personal commentary to evaluate the government."

Unemployment, Paulipetro

Among the respondents, 48 percent used "excellent" or "good" to describe Franco Montoro's handling of the demonstrations by unemployed workers at the beginning of April, while 34 percent said his performance was fair, poor or very poor. Gallup concluded that it was in these incidents that the governor received the highest approval rate for his actions (plus 14 points), followed by the deactivation of Paulipetro (plus 7 points).

In other areas, Franco Montoro's performance was viewed negatively: public health (minus 14 points); security and police service (minus 18 points); unemployment in the state (minus 25 points); and public administration (minus 20 points). In this last sector, the government was seen as not responding to the demands of the state's civil servants.

It is interesting to note that it was PT supporters who were most disapproving of the governor's handling of the job issue; 62 percent of those who voted for Luis Ignacio disapproved of Montoro's action and only 17 percent approved of his efforts. Among those who voted for Reynaldo de Barros, of the PDS, 54 percent disapproved and 19 percent agreed with the governor's actions in this area. Among those who voted for Montoro, 28 percent approved and 49 percent criticized his action with regard to unemployment in the state.

Inadequate Budget Major Problem

Among Sao Paulo residents, 58 percent believe that the government will not have sufficient funds to take care of the state's needs, while only 28 percent of those interviewed by Gallup believe that funds will be available. Excluding the 14

percent of respondents who had no opinion, according to Gallup, it can be said that 68 percent of the population does not believe the money will be there.

Much of the Sao Paulo population (44 percent) believes that the Franco Montoro administration is, at this point, better than that of Paulo Maluf, but 41 percent feel the present government is the same as or worse than the previous government.

In the same way, 54 percent of Sao Paulo's residents feel that the Montoro administration will be better than that of Maluf, while 33 percent believe it will be equal to (23 percent) or worse than (10 percent) the Maluf government.

Half the population of Sao Paulo (50 percent) feel there were irregularities in the Maluf administration and only 18 percent did not believe this possibility. Only 5 percent of the respondents felt that all the irregularities in the previous Maluf administration had been denounced by the Montoro government, whereas 35 percent believed that the list of accusations was only partial.

The Gallup survey also found that 34 percent of those who voted for Montoro in the November 1982 elections considered his administration "the same as," "a little worse" or "much worse" than that of Paulo Maluf. Among those who voted with the PT, 44 percent subscribed to this classification, as did 55 percent of PDS voters.

Some 50 percent of the population approved of the way the mayor of the capital was chosen, and 37 percent voiced their dissatisfaction with the choice of Mario Covas. In the capital, 41 percent could remember the name of the mayor, while 66 percent of the population in the state did not know the mayor's name and 2 percent mentioned a different name.

Survey Covered Entire State.

The Gallup Public Opinion Institute survey evaluating the performance of the Montoro administration after his first 100 days in office was conducted exclusively for O ESTADO in July, with interviews of 1,270 residents of the capital and of various cities in the interior.

Within the strictest standards and techniques of public opinion research, the purpose of the survey was to determine a series of data in the evaluation of the performance of Governor Franco Montoro, namely: index of voters and identification according to their vote in the 1982 gubernatorial election; preference by current party; general evaluation of Montoro's performance; level of interest in his actions; media used to follow the news reports regarding his administration; evaluation of Montoro's administration in comparison with the Paulo Maluf government; evaluation of the state government's actions regarding the demonstrations by unemployed workers, unemployment in the state, security and police service, public administration, health matters and the deactivation of Paulipetro.

The Gallup survey also polled the population regarding irregularities in the Maluf administration, the choice of Mayor Mario Covas, expectations as to the availability of funds to meet the needs of the state and as to Montoro's performance in comparison with the previous administration.

The sample included adults of both sexes, all the socioeconomic classes and all age groups, based on data from the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics] 1982 census and from previous Gallup surveys, using a multistage selection process. The same process was observed regarding the distribution of respondents by cities in the various administrative regions of Sao Paulo State.

Table 1: General Evaluation of Performance of Montoro Administration by Sex, Class and Age of Respondents

Questions: In general, do you think that Governor Franco Montoro is an excellent, good, average, poor or very poor governor?

Response (percent)	Total	Sex		Class					Age		
		M	F	A	B	C	D	E	18/29	30/49	50/+
Excellent	6	6	7	3	5	5	8	7	7	6	6
Good	29	30	29	27	28	29	29	40	33	26	29
Average	42	41	42	46	44	43	41	25	43	42	37
Poor	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	5	4
Very poor	7	6	7	9	9	6	6	9	7	6	8
No opinion	12	13	11	10	11	13	12	15	7	15	16
Totals	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,270	636	634	78	234	435	443	80	465	575	230

Table 2: Opinion Regarding Availability of Funds for State

Questions: From what you know, will the Montoro administration have sufficient funds to meet the needs of the state?

Response (percent)	Total	Class					Age			Education		
		A	B	C	D	E	18/29	30/49	50/+	Pri	Sec	Higher
Yes	28	15	20	24	34	51	29	26	30	33	24	19
No	58	77	71	63	50	26	62	59	49	49	66	78
No opinion	14	8	9	13	16	23	9	15	21	18	10	3
Totals	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,270	78	234	435	443	80	465	575	230	680	445	145

Table 3: Knowledge of Name of Present Mayor of Sao Paulo

Questions: Do you remember the name of the current mayor of Sao Paulo? (If yes), what is his name?

Response (percent)	Total	Sex		Class					Age		
		M	F	A	B	C	C	E	18/29	30/49	50/+
Mario Covas	32	43	21	61	48	36	20	4	27	32	44
Other name	2	2	1	4		1	2		2	1	1
Don't know	66	55	78	35	52	63	78	96	71	67	55
Totals	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,270	636	634	78	234	435	443	80	465	575	280

Table 4: General Evaluation of Montoro Government by Level of Education and Size of City Inhabited

Question: In general, do you think that Governor Franco Montoro is an excellent governor, a good governor, an average governor, a poor governor or a terrible governor?

Response (percent)	Total	Education			Size of City Inhabited				Regions											
			Primary	Secondary	Higher		Over 50,000	10,001 to 50,000	5,001 to 10,000	Up to 5,000 pop.		Capital	Interior	Greater Sao Paulo	Campinas/ Sorocaba	Coast/ Vale do Paraiba	Marila	Rib. Preto/Bauru	Aracatuba/ Pres. Prudente	S.J.R.Preto
Excellent	6	7	4	7	6	6	2	23	29	7	7	27	31	26	30	29	3	5	5	6
Good	29	29	31	25	30	33	23	33	29	29	7	40	42	43	45	49	37	37	32	32
Average	42	39	43	50	44	39	53	33	33	33	29	6	6	5	5	2	41	41	29	29
Poor	4	4	5	2	3	3	6	4	4	4	3	8	3	5	3	2	3	3	3	3
Terrible	7	7	7	4	6	6	2	5	5	5	3	12	12	8	3	7	5	5	6	6
No opinion	12	14	10	12	11	13	14	22	22	22	12	12	12	11	11	10	9	9	22	22
Totals	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,270	680	445	145	511	203	48	55	55	55	452	818	619	233	93	93	169	169	156	156

Table 5: Evaluation of Montoro Administration in Comparison to Maluf Administration

<u>Response</u> (percent)	<u>At this time</u>	<u>In the future</u>
Better	44	54
(much)	(17)	(16)
(somewhat)	(27)	(38)
Equal	26	23
Worse	15	10
(much worse)	(6)	(4)
(somewhat worse)	(9)	(6)
No opinion	15	13
Total	100	100
Base	1,270	1,270

Irregularities in Maluf Administration

<u>Response</u> (percent)	
There were irregularities	50
Montoro government has reported them all	(5)
Montoro government has reported them in part	(33)
Montoro government has not revealed them	(12)
No irregularities	18
No opinion	32

Table 6: Opinion of the Way in which the Mayor of Sao Paulo Was Selected

<u>Response</u> (percent)	<u>Capital</u>
Agree with method of choice	52
Disagree with method of choice	31
Know Mario Covas was named mayor	41
Fully agree with choice	50
Partially agree with choice	20
Partially disagree with choice	5
Totally disagree with choice	12

6362

CSO: 3342/170

PILOT PLANT TO PRODUCE 2,000 TONS OF TITANIUM BY END OF 1983

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Aug 83 p 32

[Text] Belo Horizonte--Fabio Teixeira de Almeida, coordinator of the Vale do Rio Doce Company [CVRD] titanium project, said yesterday in Belo Horizonte that the Tapira pilot plant, in southern Minas Gerais, will have its final stages completed by Saturday and should be producing 2,000 tons of titanium concentrate by the end of the year. "In the beginning of next year, Vale will be in a position to decide on the initiation of construction of the industrial plant," he said.

The industrial unit will require an investment on the order of \$60 million to \$80 million and, in a first phase, will have the capacity to produce 150,000 tons of concentrate. According to Teixeira de Almeida, "judging from our discussions with pigment manufacturers, who said they were prepared to purchase our product as soon as we go into production, a plant producing 150,000 tons in a first phase is quite realistic, and in a second phase it could reach 300,000 tons."

Tapira's titanium concentrate is extracted from anatase reserves estimated at 350 million tons, which contain 250 million tons of titanium dioxide. Currently, the concentrate is used by the paint industry in the manufacture of pigments and, on a lesser scale, by the aerospace industry.

The Tapira plant should already have gone into operation, but, according to Teixeira de Almeida, this was not possible because of problems with the equipment, all of Brazilian manufacture. "We have had problems with the quality of the equipment and this has made us a little fearful, but the program per se has already been proven by means of laboratory tests," he assured.

Teixeira de Almeida reported that "three or four of the world's major pigment manufacturers want to come to Brazil." The French group La Porte, associated with Construtora Andrade Gutierrez, has already submitted a proposal to the CDI [Industrial Development Council]. Du Pont and Glidden are also interested in producing pigments in Brazil, for which construction of the Vale do Rio Doce industrial unit, to produce the concentrate, is essential. According to the project director, these companies are interested in having the CVRD associate with them in the manufacture of pigments, but this should not be forthcoming.

After the pilot plant goes into production--with a capacity to produce 15,000 tons per year--the concentrate will be marketed at a price which has not yet been determined but which should fluctuate between \$230 and \$250 per ton. Producing 150,000 tons per year, the Tapira plant will meet the country's current and future demands and could also export to Latin American and European countries.

6362

CSO: 3342/170

COUNTRY TO IMPORT 3.7 MILLION TONS OF WHEAT IN 1984

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Aug 83 p 37

[Text] Porto Alegre--Brazil should import 3.7 million tons of wheat next year to supply the domestic market. At today's prices, this corresponds to an expenditure of about \$615 million, or about 400 billion cruzeiros. Brazilian wheat purchases this year should amount to 4 million tons, 3 million of which are already contracted for. The needs for next year were announced yesterday in Porto Alegre by Nilo Ferstenseifer, chief of the Wheat Marketing Department of the Bank of Brazil, based on a field study of the projections for this year's domestic harvest, the results of which should be announced next Wednesday in the department bulletin.

The study indicates that the country has 1.85 million hectares planted in wheat, with an estimated harvest of 1.85 million tons. The wheat already harvested in some states is of good quality and the crops have shown an average yield as high as 1,500 kilograms per hectare. Brazilian wheat consumption next year should reach 5.2 million tons, as against 5.5 million tons this year.

In the major producing state--Parana, with 904,000 hectares planted in wheat--only 4 to 5 percent of the crop has been harvested, but Ferstenseifer reports that the technicians expect an average yield of 1,200 kilograms per hectare, with a specific hectolitic weight of 78. Parana's major producing region is in the north, with 40 percent of the state's wheat crop. Only 10 percent of the area there has been harvested. In Rio Grande do Sul, the second-largest wheat producing state, 682,000 hectares were planted in wheat, but the harvest will not begin until the second half of October. Normally it begins in the first 2 weeks of October, but the rains delayed the planting and, hence, the harvest. According to a CTRIN [National Wheat Marketing Enterprise] study, the crops are in good condition, but if the current hot and humid weather persists it could begin to cause some damage. For the time being, the Rio Grande do Sul wheat has not been significantly affected. Hail fell in the state between Sunday and Tuesday, but only in the metropolitan region. The wheat fields were not affected.

In Santa Catarina (16,00 hectares), the situation is the same as in Rio Grande. In Sao Paulo (117,000 hectares), 30 percent of the crop is already harvested. The average yield is 1,500 kilograms per hectare and the hectolitic weight is also 78. In Mato Grosso do Sul (106,000 hectares), the crop is excellent; according to Ferstenseifer, although the harvest is still in the early stages, the yield has varied from 1,500 to 1,800 kilograms per hectare and the hectolitic weight varies from 78 to 80. In Minas Gerais (23,000 hectares), half the area has been harvested. The average yield is 1,300 to 1,400 kilograms per hectare and the average hectolitic weight is 78. Finally, the 2,000 hectares planted in Goias and the Federal District should produce very well, as always. There the hectolitic weight could stand at 80, with an expected yield of 1,500 kilograms per hectare.

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR COUNTRY PUBLISHED

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 25 Jul 83 p 6A

[Text] The number of unemployed persons in this country dropped by 5,380 between March, 1982, and March, 1983, according to preliminary figures from a nationwide survey of households, the employed, and the unemployed conducted by the Ministry of Labor and the Office of Statistics and Census.

This means that the rate of real unemployment (individuals who do not work at all but desire to) decreased from 9.5 to 9 percent during this period.

However, according to the study, there are still 73,388 persons unemployed compared to 78,768 unemployed in March of last year.

The decrease of 0.5 percent in unemployment is considered by the minister of labor, Guillermo Sandoval, as significant since inflation continues to erode our economy.

He added that the index was favorable because at the end of one year and the beginning of the next the number of jobs is governed by seasonal work. For example unemployment generally increases in the first months of the year because of the increased number of idle coffee pickers.

Jobs

At the same time the analysis shows that the number of jobs fell by 1.7 percent in the 12-month period under study.

According to the director of the Office of Statistics and Census, Rafael Trigueros, this means that 27,760 jobs needed to maintain the job level of March of last year did not materialize.

In 1982 the job rate was 46 percent, which fell to 44.3 percent last March. An important factor in this decrease was the increase in the population able to work, which is 1.6 million at present.

However, in order to reach the job rate level of 47.7 percent prevailing in March, 1980, close to 45,000 jobs would have had to be generated by March of this year in order to maintain that percentage of employment.

Regarding this, Trigueros noted that the reason for the scarcity of jobs is that the government is not absorbing new employees for the public sector.

He also explained that the drop in the rate of employment was not normal since the average rate since 1976 had been running between 46 and 47 percent.

The average job rate fell to 44.3 percent last March due to the deficiency of 45,000 new jobs needed to reach the 47 percent rate of previous years.

Underemployment

At the same time the survey shows that the rate of total underemployment fell from 21.3 percent in March, 1982, to 20.1 percent last March.

This means that approximately 9,750 persons are underemployed, that is, they earn wages that are below the legal minimum or they work more than 8 hours a day or want to work more but cannot.

According to the figures real unemployment is greater in urban areas than in the rest of the country, for instance the provincial capitals of Limon and Puntarenas.

Also, the highest rate of under-utilization was in the rural areas of the Central Valley; this figure includes both the unemployed and the underemployed.

The final survey figures will be released within a few days, and it is expected that data on underemployment, employment by economic sectors, and causes of unemployment will be made known.

9015

CS0: 3248/1157

BRIEFS

FAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE--After 4 successive years (1978-1981) of adverse balances in Costa Rica's balance of payments results turned positive last year. Net foreign monetary reserves in domestic banks rose by \$138 million, lowering the negative balance to \$47.3 million at the end of December. By the first few months of this year the balance was positive by \$1.5 million. This improvement was definitely influenced by the monetary and exchange measures adopted by the Central Bank, especially the foreign exchange controls. The reordering of this activity resulted in an increase in available foreign exchange and the disappearance of speculation in exchange rates. After a rising tendency up to about the middle of 1982, the exchange rate began to decline. These measures have had a noticeable effect on the trade balance. According to the Department of Economic Studies of the Central Bank, there was a surplus of \$3.6 million, in comparison with a deficit of \$208 million. This development is attributed to the drastic decrease of 28 percent in imports, while exports were also down by 13 percent. This together with the adverse balance of 201 million colons in service transactions and unilateral transfers put the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments at \$198 million, signifying a decrease of 51 percent in comparison with that of 12 months earlier. To sum up, the vital part of this country's international transactions (current account and the balance of payments) is trade. [Text] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Jul 83 p 3] 9015

INFLATION STATISTICS--The consumer price index for medium and low income families in the metropolitan area increased by 8.92 percent between December of last year to May, 1983, according to a study made by the Office of Statistics and Census. The director of that institution, Rafael Trigueros, explained that the figures for June had not yet been computed because price data are collected throughout the month and processing them takes several days more. This increase was considered low by the director compared to that experienced during the same period last year. According to the study, the general price index increased by 25.6 percent the first 4 months of 1982 as against 8.92 percent during 5 months of this year. Among the areas which helped bring about the increase was the rise in the cost of housing, which went up 16.06 percent. Also, clothing increased by 2.10 percent, miscellaneous items by 10.47 percent, and food by 5.94 percent. [Excerpts] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 3 Jul 83 p 2A] 9015

LAND OWNERSHIP--Next week the Agricultural Affairs Committee will continue discussing the agrarian reform bill. There is a consensus among committee members that the land ownership problem in our country is extremely serious and should be tackled immediately. The committee heard a report by experts stating that 67 percent of the arable land in this country is concentrated in the hands of a small group of people and that farm land suitable for settling is no longer available because it is all in private hands. Therefore, what does exist has to be redistributed. Another problem brought before the committee was that a great deal of land suitable for agriculture is devoted to grazing, much of which is poorly used. The communist deputy, Freddy Menendez, stated that the agrarian reform bill is of special importance to this legislative committee because of the distressing condition of Costa Rican agriculture. He stated that there was harsh fighting over land in the Atlantic and southern regions right now. [Excerpt] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 24 Jul 83 p 21 9015]

NUMBER OF YOUTHS DECREASE--The number of children and youths under 25 decreased in this country by 5.5 percent in the decade between 1973 and 1983, which could mean the beginning of the aging of the Costa Rican population. This situation is suggested in a study made by the Latin American Demographic Center (CELADE) during the first 3 months of this year in which it was pointed out that in relative terms those under 25 reduced their contribution on behalf of the older groups. The group of inhabitants between the ages of 25 and 65 years also increased its contribution within the total population of the country, according to the study, which was done with the cooperation of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN), the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the Ministry of Health, and the Office of Statistics and Census. During the decade the total population of the country rose from 1.9 to 2.5 million. In addition, CELADE projections reveal that by 1990 the population will be 2.9 million and by the year 2000 3.6 million. Based on these figures, it is estimated that those under 25 represent 59.4 percent of the human population in 1983, while in 1973 the figure was 64.9 percent. That percentage will decrease to 55.3 percent by 1990 and to 51.4 percent by the year 2000. On the other hand, the situation of those between the ages of 25 and 64 is the reverse since this year they represent 36.9 percent of the population while in 1973 they represented 31.6 percent, in 1990 they will represent 40.6 percent and in the year 2000 43.7 percent. The same applies to those 65 and over; it is expected that they will represent 4.9 percent by the end of the century, while in 1973 they were 3.5 percent, in 1983 3.7 percent, and in 1990 the figure will be 4.1 percent. [Excerpt] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 4 Jul 83 p 2A] 9015

CSO: 3248/1157

BCR REPORTS 150 MILLION COLONES IN RESERVES

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 22 Jul 83 pp 3, 46

[Text] The positive balance of 151 million colones in foreign reserves reflects a rational administration of monetary, exchange, and credit policies in our country, the Central Reserve Bank [BCR] reported yesterday.

The BCR explained that while it is true that the aforementioned sum is lower than in other, normal years, today's figures should be tempered by consideration of the abnormal economic and political situation now prevailing.

On the other hand, the BCR, while remaining within current monetary policy, points out that applications for exchange credits for imports are submitted in the morning and returned the same afternoon.

Finally, the Bank explains the criteria used in allocating exchange credits and loan assistance.

Positive Reserve Balance

As of 24 June this year, international reserves show a positive balance of 151 million colones, which indicates a notable improvement in relation to the situation prevailing as of 31 December 1981, when reserves had dropped to a negative 373 million, said the BCR yesterday.

The foregoing is due in part to rational administration of monetary, exchange, and credit policies in our country, as well as the efforts made to obtain foreign financing under conditions favorable to our country, emphasized bank sources.

All in all, the figure of 151 million in reserves is still considerably less than that recorded under normal economic and political circumstances, but this should be understood as a function of the exceptional conditions which our country and the Central American region in general are going through, says the communique.

Other announcements by the BCR are as follows:

Equitable Service to Applications for Exchange Credits

In the Imports Section of the Department of Exchange Controls, it has been arranged that applications for exchange credits for imports (Form No. 10) will be received during morning hours, and returned to clients during after-noon hours.

This procedure has been adopted in order to facilitate and rationalize the corresponding paperwork to the benefit not only of the public, but also to the better service of the Bank employees who perform such services.

The BCR understands that some clients would like to be served as a top priority; but in this regard, the appropriate Bank section tries to give everyone the same service without favoring anyone.

In accordance with the standards of exchange policy, these facilities are offered to permit imports essential to the country's economy, that is essential in and of themselves, or because of scarce industrial availability.

Financing to Import Raw Materials

With respect to the availability of financing so that the industrial sector can import raw materials, the BCR considers it appropriate to distinguish the problems of assigning exchange credits as opposed to loan assistance to this sector, as they are two different matters. In fact, even when opening a letter of credit abroad is related to both programs, often the main difficulty is due to lack of client solvency, rather than a lack of foreign exchange.

When granting credit, everyone knows that various factors are taken into account, and one of them is the client's record and ability to pay, in addition to which any line of credit must be opened and channeled in accordance with standards with which both the lending institution and the borrower must comply.

The allocation of exchange credits for import purposes, in turn, depends in good part on the liquidity existing in the financial system, and the kind of goods or services to be imported.

On this last point, and in view of the exceptional circumstances now prevailing in our country, monetary authorities have established criteria of prioritization, since granting exchange credits in an indiscriminate way at this time would be not only anti-technical, but also counter-productive for government policy.

The BCR is aware that today, more than every, the industrial sector, and in general every sector that generates employment and income, is a vital element in the country's economic revitalization. Consequently, everything possible is being done to best implement the country's monetary, exchange and credit policies.

Thanks to the foregoing, and to the efforts made in search of foreign financing under better conditions, the foreign exchange situation has improved considerably, since as of 21 December 1981, net international reserves were a negative 373 million, while as of 24 June 1983, they climbed to a positive 151 million. San Salvador, 21 July 1983.

CGT REJECTS PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 19 Jul 83 p 31

[Text] To the working class and the Salvadoran people in general:

In the face of ongoing efforts by the economically powerful to block social change, with respect to the laws on Nationalization of the Banking System, International Trade, and Agrarian Reform, we wish to make it very clear to both national and international public opinion that we reject:

1. The spirit contained in proposed Articles Numbers 104 and 105 of the Political Constitution, with which the most conservative sectors represented in the Constituent Assembly hope to freeze and if possible nullify the Process of Agrarian Reform, while it is quite clear to workers and the people, especially to the peasants who are participating in that process, that once again the majority of political parties and their representatives in the Assembly have deceived us, for the last thing they do is legislate for the benefit of the people, who are composed for the most part of workers and peasants who voted for a constitutional regime and to won the peace so urgently desired by our people.
2. The blockage and refusal by some of the fathers of our country, in the new Political Constitution, of the right of government and municipal workers to freely form labor unions.
3. The foregoing is nothing new, for the most developed countries have managed to overcome social problems by legislating in advance in favor of workers and the people, which it is why it is urgent for our country to legislate for the benefit of workers and the majority of the people who are dispossessed and exploited, but who nonetheless directly produce the wealth which others take advantage of and enjoy with a profligate hand, without concerning themselves with the hunger of those who serve them at such great sacrifice.

We therefore request:

That the three Supreme Powers of the State, and most especially the "Fathers of our Country," elected by the people and for the people, who now make up the Honorable National Constituent Assembly.

3.1. Leave intact, without any amendment whatsoever, in our new Political Constitution, the Social Changes begun by the Former Revolutionary Government Junta, especially the Agrarian Reform contained in Decrees Number 153 and 154, as well as the Nationalization of the Banking System and International Trade.

Because only thus will we be able to guarantee:

- a) better distribution of land
- b) abundant and improved harvests of both domestic and export products
- c) real income to our country of foreign exchange credits as a result of sale abroad
- d) better distribution of wealth among those of us who produce it
- e) an increase in workers' purchasing power
- f) an increase in the power to purchase other items for the workers' comfort, which up to now have always been out of our reach.

3.2. Taking into account that El Salvador is beginning a process of democratization, in which we, the workers, have full rights to more just, more humane, and more democratic legislation, with a real voice, it is a matter of urgent necessity to see that the New Political Constitution contain the right of workers in private enterprise, peasants, government and municipal workers to freely form labor unions, without restrictions of any kind.

3.3 With regard to the date for the coming elections: We believe they are urgently needed so that the people can freely decide who our leaders are to be. Nevertheless, while approval of our Magna Carta is needed as a point of departure, it should be discussed and analyzed without passion of any kind, while taking into account especially the popular organizations representing workers and the people, among whom the CGT [General Workers Confederation] needs an effective voice.

We are issuing a warning not to fall into the trap of either delaying or hurrying approval in deference to the interests of other sectors, without taking into account the demands of the popular sectors.

San Salvador, 18 July 1983.

For a real democracy with popular participation. Neither men without a nation, nor a nation without men.

Jose Luis Grande Preza. Francisco Zaldana Cabrera. Alberto Alvarenga Siguenza. Arcadio Otilio Candido. Rafael Escobar Chicas.

9839

CSO: 3248/1148

EUROPEAN LIBERAL PARTIES' DELEGATION ON FACT FINDING TOUR

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 31 Jul 83 p 3

[Text] A European delegation composed of political leaders of liberal and democratic parties is in El Salvador to acquaint themselves with the Salvadoran situation, and then to explain it to various institutions of their respective countries.

Yesterday they interviewed members of the Ammesty Board who explained all the details of the cited law which has permitted more than 900 persons to take advantage of it, including political defendants and those who took up arms.

The delegation is headed by Karl Koept of the Friederich Naumann Foundation which sponsors the liberals and Wolfgang Steigert of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation which sponsors the democrats.

Steigert told LA PRENSA GRAFICA that the delegation, composed also of youth sections in both parties, will offer a detailed report to their respective political institutions as well as particulars of the situation to Europeans in general.

In the delegation are members of those parties of West Germany, Italy, Finland, etc.

Yesterday there was a working and consultive meeting with the directors of the PPS [Salvadoran Popular Party], AD [Democratic Action], PCN [National Conciliation Party], PAISA [Salvadoran Plan for Immediate Action], and the Christian Democratic Party.

Today they will visit an agricultural cooperative of one of the haciendas of the reformed sector of La Libertad Department, to learn at first hand all matters relating to agrarian reform which, according to them, had made a strong impression in their countries.

9678

CSO: 3248/1164

DUARTE EUROPEAN TOUR CALLED SELF-SERVING

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 31 Jul 83 pp 3, 9

[Text] Carlos Giron S., in statements made yesterday, said that "Duarte looks for socialist assistance for himself."

Mr. Giron S. refers to the activity which the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] candidate for the presidency is engaged in abroad.

In this respect he says: "J. Napoleon Duarte says that he has been to Europe to 'look for help for his country.' In press releases he has placed more emphasis on publicizing his meetings with the socialist head of the Spanish government, Felipe Gonzalez, and the leader of the Popular Democratic Party, Oscar Alzaga.

"Despite the name-dropping in releases, it is possible to determine the nature of 'The Big Successes' for our country. Apart from the inflated chatter of the former president of the revolutionary council of government (not of the republic as he likes to be called), we don't believe that these successes have resulted in an amelioration of the difficult economic situation for which he is responsible.

"As he is an ultra leftist, he had more interest in identifying himself with his fellow partisans (or should we say fellow travellers), than with other non-leftist leaders with whom he says he has also met. For example, [he is not interested in identifying himself] with the rightist Prime Minister of Great Britain, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, with whom logically he should have the very least in common. In fact, the two cannot have anything in common it is not possible to place her considering that while she believes in and defends democracy, private property and the market economy, he relegates all of this to the past.

"Nothing was said of the value of his interview with his international Christian Democratic co-religionist, Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. Despite political affinity, neither can there be in this case concurrence of thought and political actions, because Kohl is a Christian Democrat of democratic and conservative ideas, who also believes in the dignity and liberty of individuals who are responsible for their own

prosperity. He does not believe in coercive systems like the confused and nebulous collectivist theory of the former president of the junta (not of the country).

"Duarte announces that he is returning with his hands full, having secured much assistance for the Salvadorans.

"It is apparent still that he does not even begin to regain the desired stature of a statesman. He begins by not taking seriously those who have treated him so sincerely and courteously, but at least they have candor.

"They know that Mr. Duarte is not the chief of state nor is he now head of the revolutionary government junta, to channel by himself some aid to his country. Negotiating and acknowledging this kind of aid belongs to government officials, not to presidential candidates without the remotest chance of a victory. Because it is clear to his 'friends' everywhere, After the failures which he had as president of the revolutionary junta, his reputation spread throughout the world 'friends' everywhere. After the failures which he had as president of the revolutionary junta, his reputation spread throughout the world and all that he expounds is taken with a smile of compassion.

"Finally, if by chance it were true that they offered him alms, it would not be to raise the national economy; it would be for his 'windy campaign.'"

9678

CSO: 3248/1164

FINATA REPORTS ON PHASE THREE OF AGRARIAN REFORM

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 27 Jul 83 pp 3, 21

[Text] Colonel Jose Galileo Torres, President of the National Agricultural Lands Credit Corporation, FINATA, revealed the terms of a report titled "Carrying Out Actions and Meeting Goals" for the period July-December 1983.

He said that the basic aim of the project is to consolidate the third phase of the Agrarian Reform through the payment of former owners and the delivery of temporary and permanent land titles. Additionally, it will motivate a greater number of farmers to fill out the beneficiary forms made possible by the extension of the provisions of Decree 207, in force until 31 December of this year, as included in Decree 171 of the Constituent Assembly.

FINATA's president explained that the project has been in motion since 15 June of last year; it is now in its fieldwork phase, in which 840 technicians with different specialties are involved. He also said that the project is being carried out nationally and is divided into several sub-projects aimed at compensating 900 former landowners, delivering 9,300 permanent titles, 14,000 temporary ones and to motivate 200,000 farmers who are potential beneficiaries of Decree 207.

When the project is concluded in December of this year, land properties will have been adjudicated to approximately 10,000 beneficiaries of Decree 207. In order to meet the proposed goals, information on 40,000 beneficiaries must be gathered and 12,700 lots belonging to 2,000 properties must be measured in order to fulfill legal requirements aimed at giving land ownership to people who cultivate it.

Finally, he said that the project is supported by the Presidency of the Republic and is approved by the Assembly of Governors of the FINATA, constituted by the ministers of agriculture and animal husbandry, the economy, the treasury, planning and the president of the Central Bank. It also has the support of the ministries of justice, public works, interior and defense and public safety.

12381

CSO: 3248/1163

ABECAFE OPPOSES PROPOSED WORKERS COMPENSATION POLICY

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 30 Jul 83 p 2

[Text] Universal compensation, the profit-sharing of workers in their companies and state monopolies in the activities that can be carried out by the private sector should not have constitutional status, said Guillermo Avila Quehl, speaking to the Assembly in the name of the Salvadoran Association of Coffee Processors and Exporters--ABECAFE.

He explained that, because of the way in which compensation is written in the Great Charter Project, "the employer would have to indemnify workers at the end of their work contract, even when no harm has been done to them, such as when the worker resigns or dies, when the contract ends or is terminated due to overriding circumstances or fortuitous reasons and in other circumstances. It would be possible to arrive at extremes, when the worker would have been the one causing harm to the employer and the latter, because of a judicial absurdity, would have to compensate the worker."

On the other hand, said Avila, by approving this principle, "one would be instigating the irresponsibility and indiscipline of workers, massive resignations that would bring about economic chaos to firms and, in many cases, the closing of companies because they cannot pay off their debts to the workers."

As for the sharing of profits from companies by the workers, ABECAFE suggests that this be voluntary and that the article be taken out completely, "recognising only that the entrepreneur must be aware of this and make plans for his employees or workers to be able to share profits, in mutual benefit.

"To elevate this provision to constitutional rank could bring disastrous consequences because some people would demand an obligatory and prompt regulation of this by the State because of politically demagogic ambitions," said ABECAFE.

In the realm of economics, ABECAFE is of the opinion that terms such as social justice, social interest and private property of social interest should be defined categorically so as to prevent their arbitrary or inconsistent use, and so that there is no doubt as to their meaning."

He also asked for the elimination of state monopolies such as INCAFE, because the nationalization of foreign trade has caused serious economic problems. The State must intervene in activities or services of major interest to the country, but totalitarianism must be avoided, said ABECAFE.

12381

CSO: 3248/1163

ACES MAKES RECOMMENDATION ON LAND TENURE

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 27 Jul 83 pp 2, 11

[Text] The existing insecurity as to land ownership is an important factor that causes the decline in coffee productivity, said Mr Arturo Simeon Magana, president of the Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers [ACES], before the Constituent Assembly.

The text of requests opposing articles of the proposed Constitution is as follows:

"Given the opportunity afforded to us by this honorable national representation, permit me to make the following remarks in the name of my association:

"1) The Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers believes that the rural property must not be limited as a productive unit. The bigger it is, the bigger will be the work source, the production, the exports and the collective benefits.

"Consequently, we are opposed to the language of Article 104 and 105 of the proposed Constitution and we submit that Article 104 should be written as follows: 'Art. 104. Land property will be transferable, alienable, taxable, divisible or rentable freely, but the transfer, enjoyment and benefits derived from lands owned by cooperative associations or farming communities will be subject to limitations.'

"2) The principles of legality and judicial security must be guaranteed and consequently, Article 105 must be drafted in such a way that it establishes advance indemnity in case of expropriations so that such expropriations will not violate the principles of legality and judicial security. Any form of expropriation not falling within the legally verified public or social interest must be eliminated.

The Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers reiterates that as long as no other product capable of substituting coffee exists, we must do what is good for this specific crop which is the backbone of the national economy. We must not defer to anyone else, nor be subjected to extraneous experiments."

12381

CSO: 3248/1163

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SEEKS RECOGNITION IN CONSTITUTION

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 29 Jul 83 p 2

[Text] The Government's Human Rights Commission (CDH) asked the Constituent Assembly yesterday to give constitutional status to this organization.

Dr Mario Luis Velasco, accompanied by the other members, Monsignor Freddy Delgado, Col Carlos Reynaldo Lopez Nuila and the secretary, Benjamin Cestoni, appeared before the Assembly to read a statement to that body.

According to the project or suggestion, a chapter could be established in the Constitution for the creation of a Human Rights and Administrative Honesty Commission.

The CDH says it could be composed of five members, of which two would represent the Legislative Assembly, two the Supreme Court and one the President of the Republic. It is suggested that the members of this commission could hold office for 3 years and that they could be reelected for a period of equal length. The Commission would have an Executive Secretariat.

It is said that the Commission will be able to propose bills or regulations that guarantee the enforcement of human rights and administrative honesty and to reform all the provisions that do not recognize them, fully guarantee them or might be instrumental in their violation.

The bill being considered for inclusion in the Great Charter says that the Commission, as its name suggests, would have as its main function the oversight of the enforcement, promotion and defense of human rights and administrative honesty. It is proposed that this Commission might be taken to be a part of the judicial or administrative tribunals in all sorts of investigative procedures and in the elucidation and sanction of deeds and violations related to human rights and administrative honesty.

12381

CSO: 3248/1163

BRIEFS

CHRISTMAS BONUSES ASSURED--Assistant secretaries of the Treasury, Eduardo Melendez Flores and Julio Enrique Acosta Baires have stated that this year all government employees will have their Christmas bonuses. On being asked about the results registered with the coming into force of the new stamp tax, both officials indicated that the increase in income has been fairly noticeable. They added that this small recovery will allow them to allot a sizeable amount for the payment of the public employees' Christmas bonus, a decision taken to maintain this tradition which benefits state employees so much. It will not be as great as in former years, but it will certainly be encouraging enough to help public employees in their Christmas and New Year's expenses. The notice of the granting of the bonus has been made without reserve, since it is a decision agreed to officially. The amount each employee will receive will be determined by his or her salary. This will be determined during the next few months. Public employees are happy about this since they had given up hope of obtaining any benefit at the end of the year. [Text] [San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 25 Jul 83 p 2] 9678

CSO: 3248/1164

BCR WARNS EXPORTERS ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Guatemala City EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jul 83 p 3

[Text] Exporters who fail to deposit exchange credits earned through sale of their products abroad within the specified deadline will be sanctioned in accordance with the relevant legal provisions, according to a warning issued by the Central Reserve Bank [BCR].

The BCR yesterday issued a communique reading:

"The BCR today warned exporters who fail to deposit, within the specified deadline, exchange credits obtained as a result of their exports, that they must do so as provided in the Law for the Control of International Transfers, for if they do not, they will be subject to the sanctions set out in said law.

"In a communique issued by its Department of Public Relations, the BCR said that it has noted certain delays with regard to the deposit of exchange credits earned by exporters under the aforementioned heading.

"The cooperation of clients is needed, otherwise the Department of Exchange Controls will have to proceed as stipulated in the provisions currently in force," said the aforementioned Department.

"On the other hand, the same source at the BCR said that in accordance with provisions of the monetary authorities, the System Banks have been delegated by the BCR to authorize exchange credits in the following instances: 1) registration of imports (Form No. 10); 2) applications for the sale of exchange credits (Form No. 15); 3) applications for travel expenses (Form No. 11); 4) other applications to import goods and services assignable to funds of the Special Foreign Currency Deposit and Parallel Market Accounts.

"The BCR emphasizes that in the foregoing cases, interested parties need not submit applications to the Department of Exchange Controls. It warns, nevertheless, that "payments for repatriation of foreign investments, as well as dividends, commissions, royalties, and home office expensed of foreign agencies or branches are excepted from the foregoing rules, and must be approved in advance by the BCR."

FOREIGN MINISTER PROMISES DYNAMIC, CREATIVE POLICIES

Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 12 Aug 83 p 71

[Text] Atty Fernando Andrade Diaz Duran, who will be heading the country's foreign ministry beginning next Tuesday, stated yesterday that it is not true that the new government is contemplating an attack on Nicaragua and that, furthermore, suitable means will be found to resume diplomatic relations with Spain.

The attorney was interviewed by the press at the National Palace shortly before being received by Gen Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, head of state and minister of defense.

He said that last Monday, the day on which the government changed hands, he had received General Majia's offer to head up the Ministry of Foreign Relations, which he accepted and for which he "feels greatly honored."

"We shall implement," he stressed, "a much more dynamic and creative foreign policy while adhering to the government's basic principles.

"The Ministry of Foreign Relations will draw up a policy in which special importance is assigned to the fulfillment of our international commitments. The government is disposed in any way possible to help achieve peace and security in the area."

Concerning the Contadora Group

With regard to the Contadora group, Attorney Andrade made it clear that he would maintain intact the principle laid down by Gen Mejia Victores in his speech on this subject upon taking over the office of head of state.

"General Mejia's government," he emphasized, "will observe with interest the efforts of the Contadora group to achieve peace in the area and will cooperate not only with this group but also with all those who are trying to put an end to the area's problems."

Relations With Spain

A cable from Madrid says that the Spanish Government has rejected General Mejia's contention that the Spanish ambassador, Maximo Cajal y Lopez, is linked with subversive activities. The person referred to was in charge of the Spanish Embassy here when a group opposed to the government seized the diplomatic headquarters; the event culminated in a fire which left 32 dead, including diplomats and former Guatemalan officials.

With regard to this matter, Attorney Andrade said that the foreign ministry will approach the mother country in a positive manner to bring the case to the negotiating table.

"Presently," he said, "although we do not have diplomatic relations with Spain, we do have strong, close trade relations.

"We believe that such a dialogue will light the way toward the resumption of close friendship and cooperation between the two countries."

Concerning Belize

With regard to Belize, the future minister of foreign relations said that "Guatemala will seek a productive dialogue with Great Britain."

"We shall have to make a more thorough study of the situation before arriving at a definite policy toward Belize."

He also categorically denied that the new government is considering the establishment of U.S. bases in Guatemala aimed at promoting armed aggression toward Nicaragua.

With regard to the country's image abroad, he said that this image was so negative not because its diplomacy had failed but because there is a series of factors, both external and internal, which have done continuous damage.

"We shall make an effort to improve that image, not among countries in the socialist camp but among countries which have democratic systems. The government of Gen Mejia Victores will try to bring about a prompt return to constitutionality and will make every effort toward absolute democratization with regard to human rights.

8568

CSO: 3248/1183

AGRARIAN REFORM, COOPERATIVES, AID PROPOSAL CRITICIZED

Guatemala City EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 5 Aug 83 p 10

[Declaration by the Institute for the Defense of National Resources]

[Text] During the period of detente the communist disinformation service, with the naive (or otherwise) effective collaboration of the American as well as European mass media, managed to convince many innocent people that the Soviet Union was only seeking peace; that if the United States reduced its military power the Soviets would follow suit with complete honesty.

The free world has now discovered its results: While the United States has disarmed to a suicidally low level, the Russians have achieved absolute military preponderance.

Having secured this advantage, international Marxism has directed its attack with greater intensity against its next victims, our own Central America. The attack in the economic realm is as important in this case as the military attack.

In the countries of Central America our principal source of employment and foreign currencies is agriculture. Its destruction means the toppling of our economic system. The country would fall then, practically of its own weight.

With the purpose of realizing this goal Marxism, using disinformation once more, has let loose in the Western world the fallacious notion that the instability in the area is due to inequitable land distribution rather than to the military intervention of the Soviet Union and its satellites in Central America and the Caribbean. These areas are of vital strategic importance. Most of the oil imported from the Middle East, South America, and Mexico has to cross these zones to reach the United States, and the same goes for the indispensable metals imported from Africa. If the Soviets were in control, traffic through the Caribbean straits could well be paralyzed.

Let us look at the arguments made by those who wish to destroy us and those who innocently collaborate with them, namely, that land distribution is lopsided. The state owns most rural land. Then comes our native population whose rights of ownership have been upheld by law (consider the Law of the Indians) and in fact since the conquest. The native communities possess titles granted by the

kings of Spain. The small community of San Mateo Ixtatan, Huehuetenango, for example, owns 667 "caballerias" (approximately 74,000 acres), and somewhat the same thing may be said of most of the communities in the highlands. This region is several times larger than the coastal zone and is owned almost exclusively by the natives.

Some argue that the more land is divided the more it produces. In Guatemala a small farmer uses the tools that he customarily works with (pickaxes and machetes) cultivating 8 "cuerdas" [land measure] a year. These produce an average of 2.50 quintals each, that is, a total of 20 quintals of maize which, at 10.00 quetzales each, aggregate 200.00 quetzales, this being their principal revenue source.

On a farm as a steady laborer he earns six times more without taking into account fringe benefits (home, firewood, allowances, medicines, schooling, and so on). When production of coffee, sugarcane, cotton and other crops drops at farms where mechanization has replaced a very small amount of manpower, employment would be reduced considerably.

Others argue that cooperatives represent the solution. But as any cooperative member can testify, a few cooperate there while the rest allow the others to cooperate. The result is that most cooperatives fail.

There are four countries in the world which, besides the European Community, feed the socialist countries. They are the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina. These countries do not limit land ownership and have never had agrarian laws. Thanks to them and their unregulated agricultural systems, the citizens of Russia and its satellites have not died of hunger and those regimes continue to survive. Those few countries such as Mexico, Peru and Nicaragua which have instituted agrarian reforms import most of their foodstuffs.

Let us accept with reserve the opinion of the German leftist official, Gunter Herterich, who preaches to us about human rights and agrarian reform. His are surprising words seeing that they originate from a country which hardly used humane means to eliminate people that it considered undesirable and which does not have an agrarian law either.

Let us also grieve at the present recommendations of AID [U.S. Agency for International Development], the agency of a free country but a country which on numerous occasions has sponsored interests very opposed to the ideals of freedom and justice. If the agrarian law that it recommends is so beneficial, why do they not pass one first in the United States so that they might tell us how it worked?

The "World Almanac and Book of Facts" for 1982 indicates that 0.745 percent of the [world's] population owns 100 percent of agricultural land. There you are!

The subterfuge which AID seeks to use is the purchase of farms of any size to divide them. Such an experiment was already tried once with German farms whose production subsequently dropped to practically zero. In 1940 San Andres Osuna produced 25,000 quintals of coffee and now it produces almost nothing. At Las

Mercedes, Colomba, on a farm divided barely 2 years ago by President Lucas, those who received parcels of land complain that they were defrauded because when they worked for the farm they would earn 3.20 quetzales a day whereas they now barely make an average of 1.00 quetzal a day.

In El Salvador, since the distribution of farms has been introduced, coffee production has dropped from 3,119,000 bags in the 1978-79 season to 1,911,000 bags in the 1981-82 season.

In Guatemala the farmers have experienced kidnappings, guerrilla attacks, the burning of their coffee crops and facilities, a shortage of credit, payments for their produce at unfavorable foreign exchange rates (down to two-thirds of the worth of a U.S. dollar), sales limited by quotas, and excessive taxes. If agriculture is now being threatened with agrarian laws, the result will be as in El Salvador and Mexico, with smaller harvests, more unemployment, and poverty greater than what we have always had.

Our enemies wish to destroy our economy which depends basically on our agriculture. Why must we help them?

Eliminating or reducing agricultural ownership would be prejudicial to the Guatemalan economy overall considering that the banks, industry and the country's entire economic life are based on agriculture.

2662

CSO: 3248/1184

MEXICAN AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT EXTENDED

Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 7 Aug 83 pp 6, 27

[Text] Mexico's secretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, engineer Horacio Garcia Aguilar, arrived from his country yesterday to sign with Guatemala's minister of agriculture, livestock and food resources, agronomist engineer Leopoldo Sandoval, a 2-year extension of the existing memorandum of basic understanding of the Mexican-Guatemalan committee for the prevention and control of coffee rust signed on 11 March 1980 by both countries.

The committee has its seat in Guatemala. The signing of the extension took place at a hotel in this capital yesterday at 1400 hours. Attending the function in addition to the signers were Mexico's undersecretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, engineer Ignacio Mercado; the Mexican Embassy's interim charge' d'affaires, Reinaldo Calderon; and the co-director of Mexico's coffee rust committee, engineer Servando Lopez.

For Guatemala, the director of Guatemala's joint committee, engineer Jorge Escobedo; the deputy minister of livestock and food resources, engineer Rodolfo Hurtarte; and the deputy minister of agriculture and food resources, Dr Victor Manuel Arellano, were present.

The function began with the playing of the national anthems of Guatemala and Mexico. The minister of agriculture, engineer Leopoldo Sandoval, expressed a cordial and fraternal greeting of welcome to the visitors in the name of the Guatemalan Government.

He referred to the development of agriculture which was one of the major achievements in the evolution of man and which in the existing world produces most of the foodstuffs and a large portion of our clothing.

Similarly, he said, agriculture is the major source of employment in the world, in developing countries, with the major portion of the manpower depending on it.

By the year 2000, he noted, 87 percent of the world's population will be living in developing countries and there will be a food deficit of 100 million tons in the Third World. The only way to make up for this shortfall is to have countries increase their agricultural production by a factor of 3 to 5 over their present output.

"We ourselves," he explained subsequently, "who share the responsibility for directing and executing agricultural and livestock development policies and the effective use of our resources, cannot do less than interpret the needs of that development, responding with positively beneficial measures and actions such as those stemming from the joint Mexican-Guatemalan programs to fight coffee rust, the Mediterranean fruit fly, and water shortages, to promote the marketing of agricultural and livestock products, and other measures approved during our meetings.

Finally, Leopoldo Sandoval said that the act of signing this official cooperation agreement for two more years and the joint planning of bilateral measures, agricultural and livestock marketing, and studies guarantee the success of the meeting right from the start.

Engineer Garcia Aguilar, Mexico's secretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, expressed his country's gratitude for the cooperation that Mexicans have received to solve problems of common interest, essentially the programs against the blights which attack crops and livestock, especially against the coffee rust.

Subsequently, various Guatemalan technicians explained the efforts being made to combat the coffee rust, illustrating it with slides.

Finally, engineers Leopoldo Sandoval Villeda [Villela] and Horacio Garcia Aguilar signed the agreement's extension for two more years for the control of the coffee rust which is now a major focus of their study efforts providing information so that the coffee producer may realize its control economically and efficiently.

The agreement contemplates the prevention and control of blights and diseases in the field of animal health, especially the elimination of the worm which attacks cattle; epidemiological vigilance on the porcine pest; porcine erysipelas; infectious aviary laryngotracheitis; and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis.

The same goes for the control of the African bee, livestock development, technical cooperation in irrigation and commercial farming and livestock exchange.

Among other things working plans include border quarantine control, technical assistance and training in diagnostic procedures, the organization of campaigns, emergency plans for the prevention and control of exotic diseases, quality control of biological products, and technical exchange in training programs.

2662

CSO: 3248/1184

BRIEFS

AVIATECA'S DEBT \$5 MILLION--"The indebtedness of the National Aerial Enterprise (AVIATECA) continues to be 5 million quetzals [\$5 million], although for the first time in a year it did not receive government subsidy, which had risen to 11 million quetzals," it was stated in an official news release. Col Mario Cabrera Sandoval, the institution's administrator until yesterday, handed over this responsibility to aviator pilot Col Anacleto Maza Castellanos, a native of Flores, Peten. Upon being interviewed by PRENSA LIBRE, Cabrera said that during his administration everything humanly possible was done to wipe out the enterprise's multimillion-quetzal debt which had been dragging on for 30 years. [Text] [Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 12 Aug 83 p 43] 8568

GOLD, COAL POTENTIAL--"Guatemala has excellent prospects for gold ore and also for coal as a necessary energy source," the secretary general of mining and hydrocarbons said yesterday in a press conference. The secretary outlined the country's mining legislation and the manner in which that legislation had been implemented. Engineer Alejandro Contreras, secretary of mining, said that, in addition to the petroleum activity carried on by that organization, it had also been devoting attention to the country's mining aspect. He said that Guatemala is a country with great mining possibilities and that the secretariat under his charge has been devoting constant attention to that type of activity. Engineer Contreras said that a number of discoveries of great interest have been made and that several programs of great interest to the country's future have been set in motion. Engineer Marco Tulio Espinoza, director of mining and hydrocarbons, said in turn that one of the present objectives is not only to make petroleum exploration more dynamic but also the mining activity. He added that very positive results have been obtained in this sector, particularly with regard to the discovery of gold deposits. He said that the analyses which have been made have not only been very positive but have revealed that the gold is of very good quality. He said that upon completion of the superficial studies now being made, more advanced studies will be made to determine the extent of the deposits and the quantity of their reserves. Engineer Roberto Gandara, who spoke on the country's current projects, called particular attention to one of the most important projects with regard to the country's future, that of the coal mines. This project will get underway on 15 September and will be conducted in cooperation with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE). "OLADE," he said, "will work with Guatemalan mining experts in carrying out an initial survey which will give more complete information than what is presently known about our coal. This project," he explained, "includes the entire

republic and will be conducted in three phases: the search for information, the interpretation of that information and then decisions with regard to exploration." Engineer Gandara said that there are good coal prospects in Guatemala and that very promising samples have been found to the extent that areas have already been pinpointed where the work will be carried out in conjunction with OLADE. [Text] [Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 5] 8568

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES IMPROVE--The private sector has received a total of \$203.5 million dollars in foreign exchange for essential imports from outside the Central American area during the first semester of 1983. This exceeds by 90 million the amount registered last year under the same heading and for the same period, the BCR [Central Reserve Bank] reported today in a communique issued by the Department of Public Relations. The communique points out that in accordance with records, the sum breaks down as follows: a) exchange credits sold through System Banks, 158.7 million dollars; b) The Industrial Revitalization Fund [FRI], 23.5 million; c) the Commodity Credit Corporation Program, 12.9 million; and d) Argentine, Venezuelan, and Colombian lines of credit, 8.4 million. The bank's source said that the increase of 90 million in exchange credits allocated to imports in the private sector over the same period last year indicates a greater availability from abroad as well as locally of credit assistance which the BCR applies through the banking system to serve the demand for foreign exchange. In distributing these types of payment, said the BCR, a criterion of rationality has been followed, in the sense of importing goods and services that are truly essential to the national economy. [Text] [Guatemala City DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 20 Jul 83 p 6] 9839

CSO: 3248/1148

PSUM STATE CONGRESS ELECTS NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 1 Aug 83 pp 1, 6

[Article by Julio Hernandez Lopez]

[Text] The members of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) in the Federal District concluded their second congress yesterday with an appeal for unity and a call to radicalize the party's activities. They also elected the new members of the Mexico City steering committee and selected the delegates who will attend the next PSUM national congress.

Valentin Campa delivered a speech at the closing session in which he stressed the importance of moving ahead with revolutionary efforts in light of the current crisis and of strengthening the PSUM's ranks.

At its Mexico City congress the PSUM approved the draft resolutions on union, farm, youth and women's rights policy that will be debated at the party's national congress.

During the session the delegates were told about the attack on the end-of-campaign meeting of the candidates of the PSUM-COCEI [Labor, Peasant, Student Coalition of the Isthmus] alliance in Juchitan, Oaxaca, and attacks against the democratic forces in that state were denounced.

During their discussions at the second PSUM congress in the Federal District, which was staged at the Coyoacan Cultural Forum, the participants placed particular stress on radicalizing the PSUM's struggle and on bolstering its activism.

Present at the closing ceremony were the party's national leader, Pablo Gomez, Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo and other members of the Central Committee.

The new members of the PSUM steering committee in the Federal District are: Ivan Garcia Solis, Antonio Gershenson, Ramon Sosamontes, Jose Zamarripa, Jaime Aviles, Erwin Stephan Otto, Rafael Cordera, Pablo Pascual, Romulo Olea, Ramiro Reyes, Cointia Lagunes, Daniel Carlos Garcia, Carlos Juarez, Luis Concheiro, Amalia Garcia, Gustavo Hiraes,

Luis Rangel, Francisca Calvo, Rogelio Sosa, Max Ortega and Ricardo Gamboa. The previous secretary general, Gilberto Rincon Gallardo, declined to serve on the committee once again.

It was reported that the committee would meet during the week to elect a new secretary general from among its members. Ivan Garcia Solis, a federal deputy, received the most votes in the election for committee members, and another legislator, Antonio Gershenson, got 51 votes. In addition, 42 delegates to the national congress were chosen.

8743

CSO: 3248/1190

CT HOLDS SPECIAL MEETING TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 1 Aug 83 pp 1, 6

[Article by Emilio Lomas]

[Text] In view of the "war of words" that has broken out among the country's official labor federations and in light of the imminent growth of the independent unions, the Labor Congress (CT) called together its 34 organizations to hold an urgent meeting today, Monday, "to prevent more serious confrontations that could endanger the stability of the top labor echelons in the country."

After reporting on this, the president of the CT, Napoleon Gomez Sada, and the leader of the General Confederation of Workers (CGT), Lorenzo Valdepenas Machuca, explained that "the various tactics of struggle" among the union organizations belonging to the CT are causing many problems, which could be taken advantage of by "reactionary forces" inside and outside the country.

They noted that CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] leader Fidel Velazquez, who will chair the meeting at CT facilities, would propose, among other things, a wideranging program to strengthen the official unions and to prevent "our differences" from being taken advantage of by "reactionary" groups. They also mentioned that the meeting would address the problems facing the Single Union of Nuclear Industry Workers and problems involved in electing the CT's next executive committee.

Gomez Sada specified that the meeting was being held in response to the urgent need to resolve the problems that have arisen within the ranks of the official unions and that have been taken advantage of "by outside interests" seeking to upset the political stability of the top unions in the country's organized labor movement.

8743

CSO: 3248/1190

SONORA COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS REPORTED

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 30 Jul 83 p 9

[Article by Antonio Franco Chavero]

[Text] Hermosillo, Sonora, 29 Jul--The Sonora SCT [Secretariat of Communications and Transportation] center will invest a total of 2.071 billion pesos this year in the communications and transportation sector's priority projects, the center's director, Humberto Valdez Ruy Sanchez, reported here today.

He said that the agency would allocate 1.761 billion pesos for infrastructure projects, 267 million pesos for communications and technological development and 43 million pesos for the operations of each of the SCT center's areas.

The SCT official explained that 635 million pesos would be invested in the maintenance of major highways, 436 million in state roads, 162 million in feeder roads and 386 million in rural roads.

He clarified that the federal highway system in the state would not be expanded this year. The available resources will be used only to rebuild 60 percent of the system's 1,512 kilometers.

With regard to the 1983 budget for Sonora's maritime activities, Ruy Sanchez said that it is about 123 billion pesos, which will be earmarked for the ferry and port signal system expansion projects in Guaymas.

The director of the state's SCT center also pointed out that Sonora has a budget of 18 million for its airports, which will be spent on the work to be undertaken by the SENEAM and the general office of civil aeronautics.

He added that in the field of telecommunications 950 million pesos would be invested to set up a land station in Sonora. When the project is completed, within 2 years, the country will have telephone links with Asia, which will save Mexico the thousands of dollars that it currently has to pay the United States for this service.

He then noted that this year the SCT center in the state would invest 11.177 billion pesos in mail services and 14.19 billion pesos in telegraph services.

He explained that this money would be spent to improve postal service and to revamp the telegraph system. In addition, two new telegraph agencies would be set up in San Luis Colorado to meet local demand.

In another vein, the director of the SCT center in the state asserted that Mexico needs officials who were thoroughly familiar with the institutions in which they serve, because this is the only way to achieve greater efficiency and further the country's comprehensive development.

He emphasized that improvisation in filling public posts makes it hard for officials to run their institutions well, which is a necessity in public administration today.

In order for government offices to maintain a high level of administrative, political and technical efficiency, those in charge must have scaled the job ladder in their field.

This is the only way that the country's public sector can maintain a level of efficiency commensurate with the nation's present and future requirements.

Regarding the decentralization of the Communications and Transportation Secretariat specifically, in other words, the state SCT centers, he asserted that "this indicates that the sector authorities in the capital have enough confidence in and have delegated much of their responsibility to officials who are familiar with the problems, priorities and strategies involved in continuing state development."

8743

CSO: 3248/1190

CROM REVIVAL, CTM DECLINE DISCUSSED

Cuauhtemoc Paleta's Leadership

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish 25 Jul 83 pp 20, 21, 22, 23

[Article by Salvador Corro: "CTM-Government Conflict Coincides with CROM Revival"]

[Text] Because of differences with the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers], the government has set its sights on CROM [Mexican Regional Worker Confederation]. It views it as the confederation that can bring back unconditional support and tranquillity of the official labor movement that Fidel Velazquez used to guarantee.

Subjected to an intensive and sudden modernization process that practically began with the present 6-year term, the old confederation--the oldest in the country--is quickly becoming rejuvenated. In less than 7 months, it considerably increased its number of members and its political power and is already considered at least the second most important confederation in the country.

Ignacio Cuauhtemoc Paleta, former senator, federal deputy and now second in command at CROM--after 89-year-old Antonio J. Hernandez--is the key man responsible for this rejuvenation. His advantage is that he is a personal friend and former classmate of Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, president of the republic.

Although all the preparations to return its past influence and power to CROM are being carried out with great discretion and caution, the "warm" relationship that it maintains with the government is well known. It contrasts with the frequent frictions between the CTM and the president of the republic.

CROM leaders have been received at least three times by the president so far this year. He has also attended the events they have held. This situation is better than that of the other confederations which, except for the CTM, must wait several weeks to see the president.

Cuauhtemoc Paleta was born on 1 February 1931 in Veracruz State. His union work began in a textile union. In 1962 he was its top national leader. Today he is the man who will replace Antonio J. Hernandez.

CROM was established in 1918 and, to date, it has only had two major leaders. The first was Luis N. Morones who presided until 1955. From then until now, Antonio J. Hernandez has been in charge. He had been appointed permanent adviser in 1940.

Cuahtemoc Paleta is a member of the generation of lawyers from UNAM [National Autonomous University of Mexico] (1952-56) which also included Miguel de la Madrid. He is very discreet about his relationship with the president; he hardly mentions it. However, in political and union circles, it is known that they are personal friends and that they saw each other often even before he was nominated for president.

The CROM leaders visited Miguel de la Madrid on 8 October 1981 when he was a candidate. Cuahtemoc Paleta only announced the delegation and then gave the floor to the secretary general, Antonio J. Hernandez. Among other things, Hernandez said:

"When you are president, sir, remember that you will find the necessary support, complete discipline and loyalty in CROM because that has been our history. We cannot in any way betray those principles of our confederation, the first that the great ideologists established."

He promised him:

"Today you see CROM is like one, ready to fight our enemies since your enemies are ours."

The presidential candidate's answer was enlightening:

"Thank you very much, Antonio J. Hernandez, for your kind and generous words. They reaffirm my friendship with CROM and its leaders who are my personal friends."

He added:

"This visit especially inspires me because I know well that CROM is tied to the best of our revolutionary history and the strong impetus of the worker movement."

Among Friends

Only 3 days earlier the two friends had greeted each other at a breakfast on 5 October attended by the members of their generation of lawyers. Seated not very far from the candidate, Cuahtemoc Paleta heard his former classmate's speech:

"I would not have felt as happy these days as I am if it had not been for your visits. I am very grateful to you." He continued:

"This is true because, as you well know, the truest friendships, purest friendships, those that last a lifetime, are made in youth. Because as youths, we

are not only with teachers but classmates. Our educational process is a relationship with teachers but it is also a relationship with classmates. We learn from each other and we form a generation."

They were identified; they recognized each other.

In December CROM suddenly began to receive an influx of union organizations. First came a large contingent of workers who belonged to CROC [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants] led by former senator and deputy Silverio R. Alvarado. Only a few weeks ago, the majority of unions that made up the CGT [General Confederation of Workers] did the same.

CROM began to be rejuvenated. Its participation in the Labor Congress increased. With other organizations, of course, it counterbalances the CTM.

This transfusion of unions which strengthened CROM with new organizations weakened others. For example, CROC lost 10 Veracruz federations and 9 delegations on 23 December 1982.

The CROC unions from Sonora followed 2 months later. The desertion of about 90,000 workers from the ranks of CROC aggravated that confederation's already difficult situation.

Silverio R. Alvarado, the founder of CROC, explained:

"The arbitrarinesses, the impositions and the stubbornness of the executive committee headed by Alberto Juarez Blancas forced us to switch confederations."

He based his decision on the fact that CROM, in spite of being the oldest, "is acquiring new strength." This is "the time when large worker groups are joining it." He continued:

"That decision has not only been made by the Veracruz and Sonora CROC. In many parts of the country, CROC has become stagnant. Other organizations are considering following us. We are sure that other parts of the country will join CROM."

Entrenched in their building, the CROM leaders' activities are beginning to attract attention. The modernization process is progressing with great secrecy. After indicating the convenience of working "prudently and confidentially," Silverio R. Alvarado revealed the following.

They are considering updating CROM on all levels; even its basic documents will be updated. They will hold meetings in which they will analyze and discuss the national problems and those that directly affect the workers. They will especially give the young leaders a chance to "play."

He insisted: "CROM is being revived now by large worker groups. Large union groups are at the door. We don't want to be hasty but not only is it a possibility, it is a certainty. They will come from CROC and other confederations."

Paleta with Doors Open

Cuauhtemoc Paleta, who is also careful in handling information, interpreted that his confederation's current situation is due to "the maturity" of the worker movement, particularly CROM which has always had "its doors open" so that organizations could come and go as they pleased.

It is a matter of regrouping, reuniting workers around CROM. It is an "express recognition" of its strength and "a return to the mother confederation."

CROM has more than enough pretexts to meet with Miguel de la Madrid but everything is easier if Cuauhtemoc Paleta arranges it. For example, in the middle of January they visited the president to inform him of the new admission of CROC members. In the middle of April, they returned to the presidential office to invite the chief executive to the inauguration of the 35th national convention. There were at least two other occasions also.

While the CTM convoked a general strike to demand an emergency wage increase, CROM, along with CROC and other confederations, systematically opposed Fidel Velazquez' position.

At the same time the discussion among the confederations was taking place, the president of the republic inaugurated the 35th CROM National Convention. He made the following statements:

"Friends of CROM, I am very honored to be with you. This event is new testimony of the essential and indestructible alliance between the revolutionary state and the organized workers. The Mexican state laid the foundation for the worker movement in Article 123 of our Constitution. Throughout our history, the state has protected the rights of the workers and their organizations. In turn, the workers have upheld and supported the platform of the revolution made government. We are mutually necessary forces! The revolutionary state, the government of the revolution, will continue supporting and protecting the rights of the workers. It will continue respecting and encouraging union organization."

Antonio J. Hernandez established his position with regard to the CTM. In response to Fidel Velazquez' statements that those who did not go on strike would be traitors to the worker movement, the CROM leader said on 15 May:

"Fidel Velazquez is the traitor; he is responsible for the division that weakened CROM." He was even more categorical: "If there are treasonous and servile leaders, Fidel Velazquez taught them with his treason toward CROM. He left it to go with Vicente Lombardo Toledano. I am much more loyal than Fidel Velazquez."

His position was clear in rejection of the CTM. To justify it, Antonio J. Hernandez announced that that confederation would seek other roads. In his speech in front of the president, he said:

"We have not been nor will we be in the ranks of the dissenters. We are at the side of the institutions. We support the government because we know its deep concern to save the country from the crisis we suffer."

Again he made the same promise to him: "Your government is strong and advancing steadily. It is our responsibility, as allies, to accompany you at the same pace. If it is necessary to step up the pace, Mr President, give the command!"

"You know your CROM friends well, President Miguel de la Madrid. We are not experts in propaganda. From the beginning, we have chosen the road of action, work accomplished. We do not like to talk a lot or get tangled in webs of inconsistency. Discretion is our discipline. Our language is sparing but clear and firm."

Those are indeed their characteristics. They do not like to make noise. They are preparing everything to be made known in due time.

Cuauhtemoc Paleta, CROM secretary of interior, and Silverio R. Alvarado, secretary of political action, are clear as to the road and the situation. They know that the confederation is preparing to play an important role. Now is the time. To them, the incorporation of unions to their confederation is almost natural, the result of the maturity of the worker movement. It does not even create conflicts or friction. They explain this in the following way.

Silverio R. Alvarado: "There are no conflicts. There is a constant ebb and flow. The confederation is not a fence or barrier. To me, the important thing is that the workers see the confederations made into instruments of struggle. It would be bad if the groups that left a confederation did it in order to form others."

Cuauhtemoc Paleta: "Everything has been circumstantial. The workers always seek protection of their rights, the guarantee to defend their interests. When they do not find that response in one confederation, they look for it. We have received those who have returned to CROM with open arms. These are the decisions of the workers. We are living in very violent times and the workers are convinced that violence does not lead to anything. There are now legal roads."

The incorporation of the last group to CROM almost caused the CGT to disappear. More than 10 national unions from the food, automotive transportation, chemistry and automotive parts branches, led by deputy Maurilio Hernandez Gonzalez, decided to seek new horizons.

As in the other cases, the national leadership met with Miguel de la Madrid to give him the news. The meeting, which was private, was held on 6 July. According to statements by Maurilio Hernandez himself, the president of the republic rejoiced that this group of unions had returned to the mother confederation.

Silverio R. Alvarado and Cuauhtemoc Paleta say that CROM has a very positive historical background. Although it underwent major divisions through the

years, it has been reviving in recent years. They carefully answered the following question: Is CROM the confederation of the political future? "Let us say merely that it has these expectations, enough expectations. It is time."

Fidel Velazquez Changing Role

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish 25 Jul 83 p 22

[Article by Salvador Corro: "Differences Between CTM, Government Reveal Fidel's Weakness"]

[Text] It is increasingly difficult to hide the differences between the CTM and the government. The friction began almost at the same time Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado was nominated presidential candidate.

On 25 September 1981 when the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] candidate was unveiled at a private meeting with the members of the Labor Congress, Fidel Velazquez set conditions for his support:

"How and in what way are we going to present ourselves to the candidate? How are we going to assist his campaign? Are we going to unconditionally vote for him in the constitutional elections? No!" Then he arranged to discuss the document that would contain all the worker demands which they would present to him (Process No. 257).

Although clarifications came from the labor leader later, a relationship of give and take was established at that time.

The CTM has been characterized by its position since 1 December 1982 which has led to conflicts with the government.

However, the allusions and attacks are becoming more direct. For example, on 20 January 1982 Secretary of Labor Arsenio Farell Cubillas cut out one of the main demands of the CTM: the implementation of a 40-hour week. That official said: "The current economic conditions of the country will not allow us to meet this demand."

At the end of March, the official again attacked the CTM. At an event to which he was invited by CROC, Farell Cubillas said that this confederation was called to be the vanguard of trade unionism. That statement angered the CTM members and forced Fidel Velazquez to travel through the country with a campaign of counterattack.

In spite of official statements that the inflationary process is being controlled, Fidel Velazquez has systematically maintained that this is not true. In April he even presented the need to change minimum wages to restore the loss of purchasing power. This worker demand was heeded practically 3 months later.

However, during the 1 May parade, the CTM leader indicated that the workers could express their demands freely.

The attempts to have an agreement with management and the government and thus impede a price-wage spiral never bore fruit. At the beginning, Fidel Velazquez blamed the tradesmen and businessmen. However, the constant price increases for prime necessities forced the CTM leader to make the Secretariat of Commerce directly responsible. He said that "it only serves to increase prices."

In May the CTM began a movement for a general strike to demand an emergency wage increase. This was considered by the Labor Congress and, after widespread opposition and criticism of the CTM, the proposal was approved. However, in practice only a few organizations carried out the agreement.

One more confrontation between President Miguel de la Madrid and Fidel Velazquez took place on 9 June. De la Madrid gave a strong answer to the CTM demand that prices and wages be frozen through an agreement that also included the government. In Guadalajara, the president said:

"I have not promised what I cannot fulfill. In December I warned that the crisis requires a prolonged and great effort from the people of Mexico. We cannot bring down inflation through magic. We cannot rationally aspire to freeze prices and wages. We would be deceiving ourselves. Deception cannot be an instrument of political struggle. We will leave it to the minorities of demagogues and irresponsible people; we revolutionaries must tell the truth."

Fidel Velazquez' response sidestepped the issue.

However, on 14 July after 2 weeks in Europe, the leader returned to the attack. In one of his most significant statements, he said: "We are not only suffering an economic crisis but a crisis in values and politics. This increases ideological confusion and is exposing the revolution to a failure."

It is even worse that ideologically "the country is confused by deviations."

However, the statements did not have any effect. The economic problem that affects the workers is becoming worse and the CTM is being abandoned. The CTM has been forced to go from defending and justifying the political and economic system to opposing it. The government does not like that.

7717

CSO: 3248/1172

MONTERREY BUSINESS DOWN 20 TO 50 PERCENT

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 26 Jul 83 p 9

[Article by Fernando Esquivel]

[Text]--Monterrey, N.L. 24 Jul--Commercial sales in Monterrey have suffered a 20 to 50 percent decline during the first 6 months this year according to a report today by the head of the chamber of commerce in this city, Amadeo Garza Trevino.

He stated that the decline in sales is due mainly to the current economic crisis, unemployment and the resulting decrease in consumer purchasing power.

Durable consumer goods stand out among the lines that have shown the greatest decline in sales since at this time it is almost impossible to provide clients with credit for financing because of the high interest rates prevalent in the banking institutions.

"This situation has created a climate in which businesses are offering merchandise at prices below cost to avoid having to store their inventory in warehouses," he said.

As an example, he mentioned the specials on fans during the current hot spell in which the fans were tagged at prices below cost.

The above-mentioned official noted, however, that the unemployment rate has been less in the business world than in other areas of production, and that while some small and middle-sized businesses have closed their doors, others have opened for business.

He affirmed that the businessman is trying every avenue to keep his business alive and to accomplish that, he is offering all kinds of sales and promotions as is evident in the advertising media.

"In an economic situation like this in which there is a considerable decrease in demand, one must welcome every tool essential for vitalizing commercial activity," concluded Garza Trevino.

9787

CSO: 3248/1168

CFE FUNDING FOR PENITAS HYDROELECTRIC PLANT

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 8

[Article by Jeanette Becerra Acosta]

[Text] Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, 3 Aug--Although Mexico is still heavily dependent on foreign technology, the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) intends to spend at least 10 percent of the 30 billion pesos earmarked for the Penitas hydroelectric plant on imported components that are necessary for more reliable electric power supplies in the country. This paper was told this by the general technical superintendent of the CFE's Executive Coordinating Commission of Construction in the Southeast, Rafael Chavira Rubio, who was visiting the state of Chiapas and specifically the site in the Grijalva River basin where the CFE's fourth hydroelectric plant is being built.

He also reported that Penitas, located between the capital cities of Tabasco and Chiapas, would have 4 generating units and an operating capacity of 420,000 kilowatts. The superintendent also noted that the electric power generated here would be transmitted to a 230,000-volt high-tension line to spur the industrial development of Tabasco (mainly oil development), Chiapas, Oaxaca and Veracruz and the tourist development of Quintana Roo.

"Penitas is important," he explained, "because while the energy generated by the Chicoasen hydroelectric plant is transmitted via a 400,000-volt line to Mexico City and the rest of the national grid, the 230,000-volt line from Penitas will help to supply a very important oil development and petrochemicals processing area and to spur agroindustry in five of the country's states."

Some 6.2 billion pesos have been invested in Penitas so far. It was Chavira's assessment that the first two units would go on line during the fourth quarter of 1986 and the remaining two a year later. According to statements heard during an inspection tour through this state, work is 35 percent completed on the project, which is providing jobs for 5,000 workers under the government's program to fully integrate the southeastern region in the country's overall development.

We should also underscore, however, that the CFE intends to complete this project with Mexican-made equipment and components, almost all of which had to be imported until recently from Switzerland, the United States, Germany and other industrialized nations. Although CFE officials acknowledged that certain electric components, such as the generators and turbine parts, would have to be imported, inasmuch as Mexico is still dependent on foreign technology, they also specified that the country is moving steadily towards greater self-sufficiency in this field.

At present, the CFE has the following plants fully operational: the Manuel Moreno Torres (Chicoasen) hydroelectric plant in the Grijalva River basin (the fifth highest in the world, behind three Soviet plants and one Swiss plant), whose five generating units have an operating capacity of 1.5 million kilowatts; and Malpaso and Angostura, with 1.08 million and 900,000 kilowatts respectively. When Penitas goes on line, the four units on the Grijalva River will have an operating capacity of 3.9 million kilowatts and generate an annual average of 13.2 billion kilowatt-hours throughout the hydroelectric system.

The reservoir at the Belisario Dominguez (Angostura) hydroelectric plant holds 20 billion cubic meters of water, the largest deposit in the country and four times the size of Chapala Lake in Jalisco. Angostura, which has 4 units and an overall capacity of 900,000 kilowatts, generates an annual average of 2.8 billion kilowatt-hours, and it is important as a regulating reservoir of the entire Grijalva hydroelectric complex.

With regard to the various charges that thousands of peasants and villagers were forced out of the area by the construction of the dam and that it has caused damage to the ecology, the CFE has given assurances that in the former case it has already "compensated and relocated the affected residents" and that in the second case studies and programs are under way to avoid upsetting the ecological balance in such areas in the future.

Of the four hydroelectric plants in the state of Chiapas (three are already in operation), Chicoasen is the most important. In this regard, Prospero Ortega Moreno, the CFE's executive coordinator of construction in the southeast, indicated that Chicoasen is "Mexico's most important civil engineering project," not only because the dam is 264 meters high (four times as high as the towers of the Mexico City cathedral) but also because 16 million cubic meters of various materials were used to build it.

"Each of its 5 turbines churns out 180 cubic meters a second, which is much greater than the consumption of Mexico City," he said, adding that the electric power generated here is transmitted from the relay substation to the nationwide grid through the Malpaso, Minatitlan, Temascal, Puebla and Texcoco substations along two 400,000-volt circuits.

FOOD UP 40 TO 61 PERCENT; OFFICIAL PRICE VIOLATIONS REPORTED

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 26 Jul 83 p 8

[Article by Angelica Quezada]

[Text] Ninety percent of the complaints received yesterday by the National Consumer Institute [INCO] were related to price violations and the sale of white bread. The Federal Prosecutor's Agency for Consumers [PFC] also indicated that a considerable number of complaints were related to the same situations as well as to the change in official prices for pasteurized milk.

Along with the price violations by business establishments, the consumer has faced a 40 to 61 percent increase in official prices for 24 different types of basic food items during the first 5 months of the year compared to prices in December 1982.

The greatest increase in official prices has occurred between April and the present for popular consumer items such as milk, bread, tortillas, wheat flour and its by-products such as crackers and past for soup as well as toothpaste, instant coffee and lubricating oil for motor vehicles.

However, a list of prices compiled by INCO shows that of a total of 65 grocery items, sausage and dairy products and perishables, 33 of them registered a price increase, 5 decreased in price and 27 remained the same between May and June of this year.

Of the group that experienced a price increase--about 3 percent on the average--the products that stand out are crackers with an increase of 36.25 percent, led by "las marias" (Tres Estrellas brand) weighing 1 kilogram which increased from 50.89 to 82.57 pesos and jalapeno chiles with a price increase of 27.37 percent, led by the La Cumbre brand 215 gram can which increased from 18.45 to 23.50 pesos.

Other products showing an increase are Sveltes skim milk, Maggi chicken seasoning and toilet tissue with increases of 155.22 to 163.78 pesos, 143.76 to 158.15, 82.23 to 86.72 (Petaló brand) and 84.19 to 87.73 (Regio brand) respectively.

In the category of sausage and dairy products, the only price increases were for Iberia cream in a 250-liter glass container and Cantimpalo sausage

(Parma brand) which went from 535.38 to 562.82 pesos per kilogram. Peas showed the greatest increase for perishable products from 94.74 to 147.57 per kilogram.

The price statistics were obtained by INCO investigators, mainly in the seven self-service chain stores.

Other complaints received by INCO were in regard to the sale of gasoline which rose to 50 or 60 pesos per liter and the high price of meat, which according to complaints, was priced at up to 500 or 600 pesos per kilogram. PFG has also received complaints indicating that meat is selling for 420 to 500 pesos per kilogram.

PFC reported that the La Laguna and Alpura dairies had recently been fined for retailing a liter of milk through their distributors at 36 to 38 pesos when the official price is 30.

In the case of white bread, both of the consumer protection and information agencies advised that each 70 grams of white bread known as a "bolillo", "telera" or other name should cost 2 pesos.

9787

CSO: 3248/1168

INCO SAYS BASIC FOOD PRICES STABILIZING

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 1 Aug 83 p 5

[Article by Angelica Quezada]

[Text] The prices of some basic items, such as beans and cooking oil, have begun to stabilize, the National Consumer Institute reported yesterday.

For its part, CONASUPO [National Company for Basic Commodities] reported yesterday that the distribution of staple foods has increased between 12 and 43 percent during the first half of this year over the same period last year. It mentioned that the distribution of cooking oils is up 39 percent, wheat flour up 12 percent, balanced foodstuffs up 31 percent, corn flour up 42 percent and pasta for soup up 43 percent from the first half of 1982.

It also mentioned that one of the items whose price dropped over this period was cooking oil, which cost 95 pesos a liter last May and June and just 93.59 (the 1,2,3 brand) and 90.37 (El Cordial) now.

Black beans dropped from 31.98 to 27.2 pesos a kilo. Mexican coffee in cans went from 87.8 to 88.78 pesos a kilo.

The price of Jumex brand juice dropped from 28.97 pesos in June to 27.77. Maria cookies (the Tres Estrellas brand) fell to 62.25 pesos a kilo box from 82.57 in June; its price tag in May was 50.89 pesos.

The price of 560-gram jar of McCormick marmalade fell from 131.76 to 131.3 pesos. Several other items recorded drops of a few centavos.

One of the food items whose price rose the sharpest in July was lentils (Valle Verde brand), jumping 91.6 pesos from 151.3 to 242.9 pesos a kilogram. Another item that recorded a sharp price rise was Decaf instant coffee, from 140 to 181.4 pesos for the 200-gram size.

The 860-gram can of Herdez pineapples now costs 90.65 instead of 72.97 pesos. The price of 135-gram jars of Gerber baby food increased 14.92 pesos from 18.92 to 33.3 pesos, and the price of Bimbo bread was up 8 pesos in this period.

The price of Regio toilet paper increased from 87.73 to 95.58 pesos, while the Petalo brand was up from 86.72 to 97.06 pesos. The price of this item had increased in June from May.

Perishable foodstuffs are subject to the widest price movements. Of the nine items analyzed, only three recorded increases in June, compared to six in July.

The Consumer Institute's analyses show that many staple foods registered price rises in July even though they had been climbing steadily in previous months.

8743

CSO: 3248/1189

SOCONUSCO NEEDS 100,000 PEASANTS TO HARVEST CROPS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 6

[Text] Every November and December over 100,000 laborers come to the south Chiapas coast to harvest 70,000 hectares of coffee, 27,000 hectares of cotton, 10,000 hectares of bananas for export and 12,000 hectares of cacao on farms the great majority of which are privately-owned.

Of the 27,000 hectares of cotton, 81 percent belong to private individuals and the remaining 19 percent to communal land users [ejidatarios]. According to a graph drawn up by CIDER in 1980-81, the breakdown of the cotton acreage is as follows: 509 families own less than 100 hectares; 48 families farm from 101 to 300 hectares; 3 families own from 301 to 600 hectares, and just 2 families own 601 or more hectares.

Banrural Finances Mostly Private Owners

Interestingly enough, the Rural Bank finances 55 percent of the cotton acreage, 19 percent of it ejido-owned and 36 percent privately-owned. We should add, however, that almost one-fourth of the private owners finance their own cotton growing.

Another interesting phenomenon is the concentration of the cotton acreage through the Tapachula Rural Association.

This association, the most powerful in the Soconusco, has a cotton gin and an insecticide mixer and receives FIRA loans through the nationalized banks and the Rural Bank.

Of the 5,500 hectares that it controls, 2,000 are financed with credit from the nationalized banks, 2,500 through Rural Bank loans and the rest with its own money.

Just 5 families farm 53 percent of the total cotton acreage that the association controls, and 12 families control 72 percent of the cotton firms.

The concentration of cotton acreage among Tapachula growers entails a concentrated demand for farm laborers. Thus, some growers employ

20 laborers, some 100, others more than 200 and so on, at a ratio of about 0.7 laborers per hectare of cotton. A grower who is registered as owning 1,300 hectares on the official lists of the cotton-growers associations would employ about 910 men, women and children as laborers.

Pesticide Poisoning

Insects are a major problem in Mexico's rainy, tropical Pacific coast region, and the yield of cotton is no more than 2 to 2.5 tons per hectare. Thus, pesticides have to be applied between 12 and 20 times, which poses a serious danger to the farm hands, who in addition to handling a highly toxic product, lack appropriate protective gear.

Many of the day laborers fall sick from exposure to these insecticides, which are outlawed in many parts of the world.

The cotton is planted between 25 June and 25 July and harvested from 15 November to 10 February. Tapachula cotton is 2 to 3 meters high, which makes mass mechanization difficult. Nevertheless, some 30 harvesting machines bring in 8 tons a day.

A grower with 19 years experience said that the yield is the same with people as with the machines. The machines cost as much per kilogram as humans. This farmer told us that his biggest harvest has been 100 tons over 60 hectares.

Mechanization has expanded in the region in spite of the problems stemming from the height of the cotton. According to the studies done by CIDER researcher Enrique Astorga, the more than 30 harvesters yielded 8 tons a day in the 1980-81 harvest.

A laborer picks about 1 hectare every 25 days. We must not forget that in Tapachula clean cotton is demanded. Hence, we could say that 25 men can pick 1 hectare a day, which would mean that a machine displaces 100 men a day in Tapachula.

Thus, 30 harvesters can harvest 120 hectares a day and over 60 days they cover an area of 7,200 hectares, which leaves some 20,000 hectares to be harvested by hand.

"Farm Workers, Come and Pick Cotton"

Until 1976, Astorga said, the pickers came on their own to the labor distribution center in Tapachula. It was in charge of feeding them and transporting them from their places of origin. As of 1977 it became necessary to recruit people from the labor supply areas because fewer workers were coming to the Soconusco to pick cotton.

This trend coincided with the start of soybean growing and the use of machinery in cotton harvesting.

Estimates are that 10,000 people come from Oaxaca and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec to the Soconusco cotton-growing regions and that another 100,000 arrive from the Chiapas and Guatemala highlands.

The growers feel that the best pickers come from the Isthmus of Tehuantepec because they are taller and, since the cotton grows to a height of 2 to 3 meters, tire less easily. The laborers from Oaxaca have to make more of an effort to bend back the branches and reach the cotton tufts on top.

By late 1980, the Local Association of Soconusco Cotton Growers, a third level organization comprising and representing all of the region's cotton-growing associations, had recruited some 6,400 day laborers from Oaxaca alone, at a cost of 225 pesos per head, for the harvest. The laborers paid for their own meals.

Several days before the picking begins, laborers are recruited with radio announcements that say: "Farm workers from central Oaxaca and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, you are invited to the cotton-picking that has already begun in the Tapachula area," a message from the Local Association of Soconusco Cotton Growers.

Bringing the laborers in from their native zones entails expenses. The association, for example, spent 1.44 million pesos to bring in its 6,400 laborers. This is financed by the growers, who pay 20 pesos per bale of cotton. The 1979-80 harvest yielded 91,651 bales worth 1.8 million pesos.

Laborers Live Outdoors on Cement

The laborers make a two-stage journey to the cotton fields: from their place of origin to a small plaza next to the railway line to Puerto Madero, and then from Oaxaca and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec to Tapachula in buses normally paid for by the growers to attract workers.

The laborers arrive in Tapachula without having been hired by a specific grower. Instead, as the manager of the Local Association says, "they are free to work wherever they think is best."

The employers know that the supply of labor is greater than the demand at this time and are not interested in hiring a fixed force of laborers. They would rather house a work force in the plaza near the railroad.

Once the workers are in the plaza with their families, they usually spend 1 or 2 days waiting for the buses that arrive early in the morning to take them to the fields.

Probably more than half of these workers are women and under-age children. Between 4,000 and 5,000 laborers arrive from Oaxaca and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

The people wait, sleep and live in this small cement-paved plaza, crowded together, without roofs over their heads or floors, lacking all essential services.

The buses arrive early in the morning to take the workers to the fields. A considerable number of these laborers are from Guatemala, wetbacks who sneak in to work in the cotton or coffee harvests. They head directly for the fields and do not stop at the plaza; they account for about 30 to 40 percent of the farm workers.

The Guatemalan workers and their families are fleeing the living conditions in their small-plot communities, and they are often caught by police and immigration authorities searching for wetbacks.

Every 8 days the workers travel to Tapachula to buy food and other items they need to keep working. In the fields, many workers live under the trees, while most take shelter in cardboard or wooden sheds with dirt floors, without either light or water.

Fifteen Hours a Day for Less Than the Minimum Wage

The wages for cotton-picking in Tapachula have been quite low. The pay for a kilo of high-grade cotton was 80 centavos in 1979, later hitting a peso and then 1.5 pesos. The pay for second-grade cotton and scavenging was 2 and 3 pesos respectively.

The pay for a kilo of high-grade cotton in the 1980 harvest was 1.5 pesos, but the demand for labor increased suddenly, and the price rose to 2 pesos.

Depending on cotton prices and production costs, workers can be paid up to 6.4 pesos a kilo. More than that would mean a loss for the grower.

Pickers earned between 120 and 150 pesos in 1980 for an 11-hour day, at a time when the minimum wage in the region was 170 pesos. The minimum wage is used as a guideline for determining the pickers' wages, but they never go that high.

Discussion of the minimum wage is academic here because a picker would have to work 15 hours a day to earn it. A picker's wage is thus determined by how hungry he is. In other words, the poorer he is and the more abundant the labor force is, the lower his wages will be. Therefore, the employers bring in the poorest people from underprivileged areas to work in their fields.

8743

CSO: 3248/1189

FORMER PEMEX DIRECTOR JAILED; ASSETS SEIZED

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish 8 Aug 83 pp 14, 15

[Article by Miguel Cabildo]

[Text] Jorge Diaz Serrano is in jail.

His trial is under way, and he could be sentenced to spend 6 years there and forced to give back his ill-gotten gains as head of Pemex.

The political trial is over. Once again an ordinary citizen without legislative immunity, Diaz Serrano was formally taken into custody early last week. The ninth criminal court district judge, Jorge Reyes Tayabas, found sufficient grounds to initiate criminal proceedings against him on fraud charges under Paragraph 1 of Article 386 of the Federal Criminal Code; under Article 13, Section 3, fraud is punishable by 3 to 12 years in prison without release on bail.

As of 31 July Diaz Serrano became a distinguished guest at the Southern Penitentiary, where he was assigned Cell No 11, a 4 by 3 meter room with a bed, a toilet and a small shelf. Not all of the mass media had access to it.

The former Pemex director remained silent during the proceeding in which he was formally taken into custody. A greeting and then 25 minutes of stern silence. Not a word.

However, his defense attorney not only appealed the presiding judge's decision but also accused the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic of distorting the facts, contending that Diaz Serrano was not given the opportunity to defend himself. Furthermore, he said that "the office's good faith no longer exists."

In response, the director general of trials of the Office of Attorney General, Marco Antonio Diaz del Leon, rejected the charges of Diaz Serrano's defense attorney, Ignacio Mendoza Iglesias, shouting "that's a lie." The two parties then chose to remain silent.

Two days later, in order to guarantee reparations for Pemex, the Attorney General's Office formally requested an attachment of the defendant's assets in the event that he has to pay out some 8.7 billion pesos. He is charged with fraud totaling 5.1 billion pesos, but the cumulative interest from the time of the fraud to the present comes to another 3.6 billion.

The attorney general's request means that Diaz Serrano and his wife Elvia Moreno cannot dissolve their community property arrangement. First Family Court Judge Francisco Velazquez Nieto reported that in view of the attachment petition filed by the Attorney General's Office, their community property arrangement cannot be dissolved, as requested in the divorce petition filed by the former senator.

The attachment covers real estate in the Federal District and the states of Morelos, Quintana Roo and Guerrero, as well as various stocks, bank accounts, paintings, furniture, automobiles and other property, the total value of which is at least 8.7 billion pesos.

The list of attached items is a long one, and it even includes his home on Sierra Tezonco Street in Lomas de Chapultepec.

The list released by Judge Reyes Tayabas of the former senator's and former Pemex director's attached assets is as follows: a house at 180 Sierra Tezonco; a house at 176 Cerro del Chiquihuite in Campestre Churubusco; a house at No 7 in the No 172 Urban Condominium Complex on Medanos Street in the Las Aguilas district; 1,249 shares of stock in Jorge Diaz Serrano's name in the company Perforaciones del Golfo, S.A. with offices at 123 Culiacan in the Roma district; a house in the Los Tabachines housing development; a piece of land at 201 Potrero Verde in Cuernavaca, Morelos, and a building on lot 57 in the Laguna del Mar housing development on Isla Mujeres, Quintana Roo.

Also included are several checking accounts in the former senator's name in the Banco de Londres y Mexico, Banco Mercantil de Monterrey, Sofimex, Banco Nacional de Credito Rural, Banrural, Banobras, Banco Regional del Norte, Bancrecer and Federal Treasury certificate accounts kept by the Banco Internacional.

Also mentioned are lots in Santa Fe, Morelos and in the Copacabana and El Dorado developments in Acapulco.

The shares of stock are in the Watijos Real Estate Company, the Tabachines Golf Club, the Acapulco Yacht Club, the Mexico Golf Club and the Santa Fe Golf Club.

The attachment also applies to 76 paintings by Siquieros, Tamayo, Silvia Pardo, Doctor Atl, Diego Rivera, Andre Masson, Moyano, Paul Del vaux; 11 marble sculptures by Ponzanelli, Agotinelli and Kyle, among others; oriental rugs, lamps, a baby grand piano, silverware, electrical equipment, jewelry worth more than 4 million pesos and several cars, among other things.

During the proceeding at which the attachment requested by the Attorney General's Office was announced, Judge Reyes Tayabas pointed out that everything inside the Las Lomas residence remains in the custody of Mrs Elvia Moreno de Diaz Serrano as the couple's community property.

The former senator broke his lengthy silence to make one clarification: "Your honor, I would expressly like to clarify that I do not own any shares in the Perforaciones Maritimas del Golfo Company. I do not own any of the 1,249 shares mentioned and therefore I cannot agree to sign any document. Moreover, the assets in question belong to my wife Elvia Moreno de Diaz Serrano as community property, and I would mention at this proceeding that she has asserted her rights to these assets, which I do not touch."

The criminal action against Diaz Serrano is under way. It is now up to the Unified Court to overturn or uphold the formal imprisonment order against the former senator. Should there be a trial, it could last 10 months, and a sentence would be handed down within a year.

Under the law, the crime with which the former Pemex director is charged carries a maximum sentence of 12 years in prison. Under the Minimum Standards Law, good behavior and work inside the prison could reduce a maximum sentence for Diaz Serrano by one-half. In that case, his release would coincide with the end of this administration's 6-year term.

8743

CSO: 3248/1190

BRIEFS

NEW BORDER COMMISSION CREATED--The Official Gazette of the Federation has reported that the Federal Executive Branch has created an Inter-Secretarial Commission for the Development of Border Zones to bring about the economic and social integration of the country's border and free zones. The commission replaces the Coordinating Commission of the National Program for the Development of Border Areas and Free Zones, which has been in operation since 1977. The new commission will support the production and distribution of items to meet the needs of residents in those areas and will promote import-substitution and exports. It will also hand down opinions on the arrangements of the free zone system. According to the decree creating the commission, it will have the following functions: to propose guidelines so that the Program for the Development of Border Areas and Free Zones is consistent with the National Development Plan; to study, assess and voice opinions on the sector policies stemming from this program; to propose measures to hasten the process of integrating the economy of border areas and free zones into the economy of the rest of the country, and to propose measures to promote the availability of domestic goods, to promote exports of domestic and regional products and to encourage exports by foreign tourists. [Text] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 8] 8743

PALENQUE BORDER HIGHWAY FUNDS--The state delegate of the Secretariat of Communications and Transport, Ruben Valenti Fuentes, has asserted that more than 1.35 billion pesos is available for extending the 463-kilometer Palenque highway to the towns of Montebello. He emphasized that the priority of the roads policy under the Chiapas Plan is to complete this major communications link, the construction of which faces many problems and obstacles because of the area's geography, hydrology and climate. He also said that the border road would enable the country to develop close to 15,000 square kilometers of jungle land that is potentially rich in hydrocarbons and hydrological, agricultural and forest resources. He went on to say that it would also facilitate the development of tourism, help to preserve historic sites and promote the economic and social development of the communities in the Lacandon Jungle. Consequently, the delegate stressed, the agencies involved in this project will make every effort to complete the road as soon as possible. [Text] [Mexico City LA VOZ DEL SURESTE in Spanish 29 Jul 83 p 5] 8743

DETAILS ON LOCAL ELECTION POLLING, CANDIDATES REPORTED

Party Lineup

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] THE LOCAL Government elections will be a three-day fight involving the ruling People's National Movement (PNM) the National Organisation for National Alliance/Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) accommodation and the National Joint Action Committee (NJAC).

The contest for the City, Borough and County Council seats will take place on August 8. Nominations reaching the Central Electoral Office at Salvatori Building up to Press time showed a three-way fight.

In five of the constituencies, independents were nominated. For the majority of seats, the fight will be between the PNM, the Alliance/ONR and NJAC. In a few constituencies, it is a straight fight between the ONR and the PNM or Alliance and the PNM, and in three instances, NJAC and the PNM in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando.

The National Alliance and the ONR agreed to an accommodation aimed at having a straight fight with the PNM.

Officials explained that they had left some seats in Port of Spain and San Fernando for the NJAC to have a straight fight with the PNM.

For nine of the 12 of the Port-of-Spain seats, it's a three-way fight. For two (Central and South River) the contest is between the PNM and NJAC.

In San Fernando, it's a straight fight in Paradise between the PNM and the ONR, and in Pleasantville Navet between the PNM and NJAC. For the other seven seats, it's a three-way battle.

For the Arima Borough Council seats it's a three-way fight all the way with the exception of Calvary where there are four contestants, including an independent.

The Conventions

For the St. Andrew St. David County Council, the ruling PNM had minute change with Mr. Wilbert West coming in to replace a candidate named earlier.

In the St. George West, the ONR/Alliance failed to nominate candidates for St. Barbs/Chinapoo, Mon Repos/Morvant and Fort George, leaving it a straight fight between the PNM and NJAC.

Overall the PNM has put up candidates in all the 120 constituencies.

In St. George West too, Mr. George Kanalee is in a straight fight with Mr. Winston Murray of the ONR for the Maracas/Santa Cruz/Bourg Mulatresse seat. Independents are contesting Malick/Caledonia and Covigne/Rich Plain.

In St. George East, it's a three-way fight in all but three constituencies. In Curepe, Mr. Hermon C. Pollard of the Curepe United People's Committee (CUPC) is the fourth candidate. In Caura and Arima/San Raphael, it's a straight fight between the PNM and the ONR/Alliance.

The PNM, ONR and Alliance held conventions recently and announced their candidates.

Over the past few months, NJAC has been announcing candidates and has included on its slate several persons who contest the last general elections.

Overall more than 305 persons have been nominated to contest the elections for the 120 seats.

List of Candidates

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 27 Jul 83 pp 1, 17

[Text]

CANDIDATES nominated
yesterday for the August 8
local government elections
are:

PORT OF SPAIN

ST JAMES EAST	
Zainool Ali	PNM
Jainool Ramjohn	ONR
Edward Christian	NJAC

ST. JAMES WEST	
Stephenson Sargeant	PNM
Winston Mulligan	ONR
Anne Marie Belfon	NJAC

WOODBROOK	
Grace Talma	PNM
Stanley John	ONR
Jawara Mobota	NJAC

NORTHERN	
Mervyn Telfer	PNM
Jensen Fox	ONR
Baba Sule	NJAC

SOUTHERN	
Albert Bailey	PNM
Andy Rodriguez	ONR

CENTRAL	
Steve Grant	PNM
Alvin Adams	NJAC

ST. ANN'S RIVER SOUTH	
Robert Chee Mooke	PNM
Franklyn Baptiste	ONR
Zakya Naila	NJAC

ST. ANN'S RIVER CENTRAL	
Lucille Chryssostom	PNM
Elmon Haynes	ONR
Aluko Mahluli	NJAC

ST. ANN'S RIVER NORTH	
Eulalie James	PNM
Chi Kamose	NJAC

BELMONT SOUTH	
Glenus Jackson	PNM

Lawrence Downes	ONR
Hazel Griffith	NJAC

BELMONT EAST	
Williams Johnson	PNM
Elmo Rousseau	ONR
Moriba Kwamina	NJAC

BELMONT WEST	
Clifford Phillips	PNM
Henry Smart	ONR
Tertius Leslie	NJAC

SAN FERNANDO

ST. JOSEPH / VISTABELLA	
Rakeed Hosein	PNM
Wilma Balladin	ONR
Kenrick Perrott	NJAC

SPRINGVALE / VISTABELLA	
William Darnley Steele	PNM
Amral Khan	ONR
Michael Limchan	NJAC

EAST / CENTRAL	
Knolly Huggins	PNM
Ian Atherly	ONR
Winnifred Hills	NJAC

PARADISE	
Ivan Toolsie	PNM
Marlene Ambrose	ONR

PLEASANTVILLE / CIPERO	
Winston Moore	PNM
Imtiaz Hassanali (Nat Alliance)	NA
Moussa Mugabe	NJAC

LES EFFORTS	
Amjad Farzan Ali	PNM
Shair Shah Ali	ONR
Leo Guide	NJAC

PLEASANTVILLE / NAVET	
Vernon Leotaud	PNM
Keith Murray	NJAC

WEST / CENTRAL	
Oroonko Barker	NJAC
Hudson Guishard	ONR
Mrs. Enez Smith	PNM

NAPARIMA
Oliver Joseph Holder
Roger Parris

ONR
PNM

ARIMA

CALVARY
Leroy Morris
Clifford Carrera
Martin James
Gerald Asee

PNM
ONR
NJAC
IND

ARIMA NORTH EAST
Rose Janniere
Brian Libert
Noel Baboolal

PNM
ONR
NJAC

ARIMA NORTH WEST
Jeannette Gay
Edward Melvin
Bayete Imhote

PNM
ONR
NJAC

ARIMA CENTRAL
Jim Morris
Hebery Maharaj
Gerald St. Lones

PNM
ONR
NJAC

TUMPUNA
Shaffick Khan
Keith Denalli
Anthony Clement

PNM
ONR
NJAC

MALABAR
Hugh Hackett
Conrad Thomas
Debra Campbell

PNM
ONR
NJAC

O'MEARA
Norman Kistow
Gloria Pollard
Peter Hosein

PNM
ONR
NJAC

ST. GEORGE EAST

VALSAYN / ST. JOSEPH
Sheed Nabbie
Albert Montano
Joseph Farrell

PNM
ONR
NJAC

ORANGE GROVE
Boysie Mungal
Surju Hardial

PNM
NA

CAURA
Junior Reyes
Sankar Rampersad
ST. AUGUSTINE
Melbourne Mc Lean
Enal Ragbirsingh

PNM
NA
PNM
NA

TUNAPUNA
Bertrand Robinson
Robert Maxwell
Michael Celestine

PNM
NA
NJAC

ST. BENEDICT
Kelshall Bennett
Phyllis Besson
Melville Joseph

PNM
ONR
NJAC

CUREPE
Ivan Roopia
Shah Hosein
Herman C. Pollard

PNM
NA
IND

LOPINOT / AROUCA / PIARCO
Esme Smith
Stanislaus Huggins
Yaa Asantewa

PNM
ONR
NJAC

TRINCITY / MACOYA
Freda McKenzie
Andrew O'Neil
Keith Baboolal

PNM
NA
NJAC

BLANCHIESEUESE / CLEAVER
Clementina Hall
Rawle Raphael

PNM
ONR

Farouk Khan NJAC

**D'ABADIE / BON AIR / LA HOR-
QUETTA**

Jarrette Narine PNM
Hector Arthur Lewis ONR
Soogrim Debysingh NJAC

ARIMA / SAN RAFAEL

Martin Munroe PNM
Harry Patrick G... ONR

ST. GEORGE WEST

POINT CUMANA / CHAGUARAMAS

Betty St. Louis PNM
Margaret Hector ONR
Bert George Lewis NJAC

GOODWOOD / LA PUERTA

Amoy Kong See PNM
Patrick Rampersad ONR
Glenroy Sandy NJAC

COVIGNE / RICH PLAIN

Cecil Tom Kin PNM
Daniel Rampersad ONR
Peter Phillip NJAC
Edgar Whitley IND

FORT GEORGE / DEBE

Zennie Renn PNM
Martin Walters NJAC

MORNE COCO / CAMERON

Francis Romany PNM
Lemuus Warrick ONR
Reginald Crichtlow NJAC

PATNA / DIAMOND VALE

Adolphus Phillip PNM
Loe Des Vignes ONR
Kala Akii-Bua NJAC

MARAVAL

Juslin Diaz PNM
Peter Tardieu ONR
Azikiwe Smenkh Ka Ra NJAC

ST. ANN'S / CASCADE

Audric Pantaleon PNM
Maralyn Boucade ONR
Daouda Adigur NJAC

MARACAS / SANTA CRUZ / BOURG

MULATRESSE
George Kangalee PNM
Winston Murray ONR

ST. BARB'S / CHINAPOO

Muriel Mitchell PNM
Anum Bankole NJAC

MON REPOS / MORVANT

Lennox Constantine PNM
Carlos Gomes NJAC

PICTON

Ophelia Cedeno PNM
Lawrence Barriteau ONR
Stephanie Weekes NJAC

BEETHAM / TROU MACAQUE

Uranie Henry PNM
Louise Smith ONR
Kwasi Mutema NJAC

MALICK / CALEDONIA

Norma Heller PNM
Jomo Oba Anyaca NJAC
Junior Small IND

NEWALOVILLE

Dave Shridat PNM
Peter Prosper ONR
Babaju Sozupe NJAC

EL SOCORRO WEST / BARATARIA

Sonny Rampersad PNM
Kenneth Butcher ONR
David Walcott NJAC

PETIT BOURG / MAITAGUAL

Yvonne Alexander PNM
 Melitus Barnes ONR
 Carl Thomas NJAC

EL SOCORRO EAST / PETIT BOURG

Mohammed R. Hosein PNM
 Deo A. Ramsingh ONR
 Errol Glasgow NJAC

MOUNT D'OR / ARANGUEZ

Umlita Lamont PNM
 Martin Lewis ONR
 Babu Ourusu NJAC

ST ANDREW / ST DAVID**COALMINE TAMANA**

Shirley Oliver PNM
 Ramnarine Ramnanan NA
 Ignatius Caesar NJAC

VALENCIA

George Puckerin PNM
 Epiphane Capiata ONR
 Nicholas St Bernard NJAC

SANGRE GRANDE NORTH

Rita Jennings PNM
 Penny Superville ONR
 Melvin Baptiste NJAC

SANGRE GRANDE SOUTH

Raymond Phillip PNM
 Donald Lawrence NA
 Terrence Quashie NJAC

SANGRE GRANDE CENTRAL

Harry Juteram PNM
 Taran Sooklal ONR
 Nkrumah Monsho Masimba NJAC

GUAICO CUMUTO

Josephine Renn PNM
 Bowen Rampersad NA
 Raphael Carrera NJAC

MANZANILLA

Wilbert West PNM
 Irvin Lockhart ONR
 Eugene Caesar NJAC

MATURA-FISHING POND

Miller Pierre PNM
 Wakab Emamde NA
 Herahman Singh NJAC

TOCO MATELOT

Michael James PNM
 Kelvin Thompson NA

CARONI**FELICITY / GUAYAMARE**

Pundit Krishna Maharaj PNM
 Vishnu Tikasingh NA
 Brando Persad NJAC
 Mookram Bhagwandeem IND

BEJUCAL / CHARLIEVILLE

Krishna Ramkissoon PNM
 Abu Hassan Mohammed ONR

LAS LOMAS / CHIN CHIN

Basdeo Maharaj PNM
 Gandhi Rohan Persad NA
 Jeromi Lennard NJAC

ESMERALDA / MONTROSE

Shoeia Newallo Craig PNM
 Dennis Singh NA
 Marie Fernandes NJAC

LONGDENVILLE / ENTERPRISE

Clinton Charles PNM
 Samuel Jattan NA
 Janice Leonard NJAC

WATERLOO / PERSEVERANCE

Nazir Ali PNM
 Mulchan Sieuchand NA

Ashmead Aziz NJAC

EDINBURGH / CHASE

Rajindranath Rampersad PNM
 Howard Maharaj NA
 Bernard Blache NJAC

CHICKLAND / TODD'S ROAD

Vivian Guy PNM
 Ramnarine Persad NA

CALIFORNIA / EXCHANGE

Ramjohn Mohammed PNM
 Lennox Samkersingh NA
 Russel Aliadin NJAC

BRASSO / TABAQUITE

Pollard Ramsaroop PNM
 Baboolai Balkaran NA
 Michael Revanales NJAC

FREEPORT / MC BEAN

Desmond Baxter PNM
 Roodal Radhay NA
 Reynold Mungal NJAC

PHOENIX PARK / CLAXTON BAY

Stalin Mungal PNM
 Sherrif Ali NA

ST PATRICK**SIPARIA CENTRAL**

Rennie Mathews PNM
 Henry Lum Kin NA
 Titus Bartholomew NJAC

SIPARIA EAST

Stanley Peters PNM
 Roland Mohammed NA
 Andrew Alexander NJAC

APLX FYZABAD

Wiston Campbell PNM
 Arthur McSanderson ONR
 Cyril Williams NJAC

GODINEAU

Henry Nurse PNM
 Rampersad Mahadeo NA

CEDROS

Lewis John Williams PNM
 Basdeo Manmohansingh NA
 Clarence Brown NJAC

BRIGHTON

Oscar Dasent PNM
 Llewelyn Belgrave NA
 Atiba Baraka NJAC

LA BREA / ROUSILLAC

Leonard Baptiste PNM
 Evran Ramdarsingh NA
 Gerry Tangkai NJAC

VICTORIA**POINTE A PIERRE / GASPARILLO**

Verna Baptiste PNM
 Cynthia Jones ONR
 Dave Saunders NJAC

REFORM / COCOYEA

Cuthbert Clyne PNM
 Isaac Bapat NA
 Ian Lemesey NJAC

FORRES PARK / PIPARO

Vincent Scott PNM
 Pooran Khemkaran NA
 Ian Norbert Thomas NJAC

CLAXTON BAY / PLAISANCE

Medford Roberts PNM
 Vernon Zainool Hosein NA
 Moriba Modibo NJAC

MARABELLA

Solon Douglas PNM
 Alexander George NJAC
 Harry Batchapooransingh ONR

STE MADELEINE / CEDAR HILL

Sheila Sandy PNM
 Nkamu Changa NJAC

LENGUA		Premchand Sookoo	NA
Harrygin Morgan	PNM	Prakash Jaggermath	NJAC
Mohammed Haniff	NA	BRONTE	
Marvina Beverly Martin	NJAC	Imam Ali	PNM
HINDUSTAN / TABLELAND		Kenneth Paul Singh	NA
Chandoo Ramkissoon	PNM	NAR IV A MAYARO	
Suresh Secharan	NA	MAYARO	
Tamba Lessedi Gwindi	NJAC	Frankie Blondell	PNM
MANAHAMBRE / PRINCES TOWN		Theophilus Mitchell	ONR
McLeod Retess	PNM	Calvin Fobres	NJAC
Sonilal Mahabir	NA	RIO CLARO NORTH	
Hayacinth Changa Pierre	NJAC	Andrea F. Chrysostrom	PNM
BARRACKPORE / MORUGA		Hansraj Sumairsingh	NA
Rennie Charles	PNM	Val John Cabera	NJAC
Edwin Granger	NA	RIO CLARO NORTH EAST	
Ekundayo Ochibuto	NJAC	Lawrence Pereira	PNM
Dhanessar Rampersad IND		Razack Ali	NA
WILLIAMSVILLE / BUEN INTENTO		Rajah Ramlogan	NJAC
Aaron B Ramsingh	PNM	RIO CLARO SOUTH	
Latchman Secharan	NA	Carlton Richardson	PNM
LA FORTUNE / LA ROMA / HERMITAGE		Marlon S. Felmine	NA
Paratap Ramoudit	PNM	Folade Mutota	NJAC
Abdool Aziz	ONR	POOLE / SAN PEDRO	
Anthony Rampersad	NJAC	Rawlins Jeffers	PNM
PALMISTE		Ramkissoon Naggasar	NA
Seepersad Arjoonsingh	PNM	Basdeo Singh	NJAC
Roy Rajaram	ONR	TRINITY / GUAYAGUAYARE	
Abraham Mahmood	NJAC	John Warwick	PNM
ESPERANCE / DIAMOND / DEBE		Jeffrey Rigues	ONR
Warren Peter Wright	PNM	Godfrey Williams	NJAC

Registered Voter Total

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 28 Jul 83 p 1

[Text]

THE NUMBER of electors registered for the August 8 local government elections is 738,639, according to the revised list.

The highest number is in Victoria country where 124,400 persons are registered. The lowest is in Point Fortin where there are 13,143 voters.

In Arima Borough the registration list shows 19,355.

The breakdown for other electoral areas: Port-of-Spain 54,388; San Fernando 28,063; St George West 86,953; St Andrew-St David 32,341; St Patrick 74,408.

Overall 341 persons have been nominated to contest the 120 seats.

Training sessions for persons selected for work on polling day will begin today.

The selected persons are to report to the respective returning officers throughout the country.

The Returning Officer for Beetham, Troumacaque and Picton has called a meeting of his presiding officers, deputy presiding officers and poll clerks at the office of the Social Welfare Division, 15-19 Tragarete Road, Port-of-Spain.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

Sept 15, 1983